

# Ali Skye Bennet (she/her)

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An NYC-based theatre professional with over a decade of broad experience in artistic leadership, creative development, production, and management, in the fast-paced and ever-changing environment of live and multimedia performance events.

## CREATIVE PRODUCER | MANAGEMENT

Serving in a variety of leadership roles with some of New York City's most acclaimed arts organizations:

### THE DRAMA LEAGUE OF NEW YORK / June 2019 - April 2023

#### ARTISTIC LINE PRODUCER

- ❖ Producer and General Manager for all artistic programming, major performance events, and live digital-hybrid experiences, with responsibilities that include the direct management of: budgets, complex production calendars, writing/executing contracts, hiring creatives and production staff, payment structures and disbursement, casting, licensing performance rights, venue rentals, production meetings, marketing/press strategy, audience engagement initiatives, frequent communication with artists and staff to provide necessary resources, and generally overseeing all phases of production to ensure that projects are delivered on time and within allotted budgets.
- ❖ Conceives and executes all aspects of longterm pre-production planning, and maintains active, boots-on-the-ground oversight, coordination, and artist support in the day-to-day operations.
- ❖ Lead Producer of DirectorFest, an annual, multi-venue, city-wide festival showcasing the work of the organization's Directing Fellows, Residents, and Alumni.
- ❖ Participates in the annual selection of artists to receive Fellowships and Residencies through an intensive, multi-step application/interview process, and executes core programmatic elements of each distinct Directing Fellowship or Residency Project throughout each season.

#### References:

Nilan (he/him+) - Associate Artistic Director, The Drama League - 310.717.6205 - Nilan@dramaleague.org

Margaret Breed (she/her) - former Director of Special Events, The Drama League - 347.668.8829 - Margaret.Breed@gmail.com

Courteney Leggett (they/them) - Production Manager, DirectorFest 2022 - 831.917.4420 - CourteneyLeggett@gmail.com

### VINEYARD THEATRE / January 2014 - June 2019

#### ASSOCIATE PRODUCER

- ❖ The linchpin and liaison for all producorial planning and communication, always keeping one eye on the big picture and one eye on the millions of details required to successfully run a major off-Broadway, not-for-profit theatre company.
- ❖ Creator of countless artistic and development initiatives, overseeing their rollout and supporting their sustainability.
- ❖ Worked closely with all departments, holding a vast array of responsibilities:
  - Artistic — produced all readings/workshops/developmental labs and other artistic development activities, maintained institutional artistic relationships, provided resources to creative teams;
  - General Management — served as Company Manager for all mainstage productions, hired creative/production staff, and managed contracts, budgets, production schedules, and large teams of people;
  - Education — oversaw all facets of the education program and the annual REBEL VERSES Youth Arts Festival, produced in association with Developing Artists;
  - Audience Engagement / Marketing — conceived/executed the lobby displays, coordinated photos, videos, press;
  - Front of House — Supervisor of all FOH Operations, and de facto Audience Services Manager;
  - Development — planning and execution of major fundraising events, benefit performances, galas, and donor cultivation.

#### References:

Jen Garvey-Blackwell (she/her) - former Executive Producer, Vineyard Theatre - 908.797.3407 - JGarveyBlackwell@gmail.com

Jill DeArmon (she/her) - Artistic Director, Developing Artists; former Education Dir, Vineyard - 917.612.9336 - Jill@DevelopingArtists.org

### VARIOUS / 2010 - Present

#### PRODUCER

- ❖ Whether as the lead creative visionary or producer-for-hire, I've developed and produced countless projects for the stage, screen, beyond, and in-between.
- ❖ For the complete slate of projects, collaborators, details, and photos, visit [www.aliskyebennet.com/producer.html](http://www.aliskyebennet.com/producer.html).

## TRANSPORT GROUP THEATRE COMPANY / September 2011 - January 2014

### PRODUCING COORDINATOR, COMPANY MANAGER

- ❖ Functionally, performed all duties typically associated with a Production Supervisor, GM, and Company Manager: hired and supervised the Production Manager, stage management & run crew, actors/musicians, and all FOH operations/staff, managed production budget and expenses, and coordinated all equipment sourcing and labor needs for design-execution.
- ❖ Assisted in the planning and execution of major fundraising events with artistic/performance components, including the annual Gala, multiple benefit concerts — supervising a team of 50 artists and 20 staff per concert — donor cultivation events, and online auctions.
- ❖ Personally curated a series of performances called *Dark Nights* at The Duke on 42nd Street.

#### References:

Lori Fineman (she/her) - former Executive Director, Transport Group - 212.564.0333 - LoriFineman@mac.com

Amanda Spooner (she/her) - former colleague at TG; AEA PSM & Eastern Council Rep - 925.321.0212 - amandaspooner@gmail.com

## PUPPETCINEMA / 2012 - 2013

### COMPANY PRODUCER

- ❖ Responsible for coordinating company logistics and production components for *PLANET EGG*, a multimedia puppet show/film, as it performed in festivals throughout New York, Washington DC, and Hawaii.
- ❖ Managed expenditures, marketing, press/publicity, website maintenance, social media, photo/video editing, travel logistics, equipment transport, labor crew, venue correspondence, and fundraising, where my input on grant applications resulted in \$5,000 from the Henson Foundation for future projects, and over \$5,000 in fiscal support from non-profit organizations.

## SIGNATURE THEATRE COMPANY / February 2012 - September 2014

### HOUSE MANAGER

- ❖ As a certified Fireguard in Public Assembly, I managed a large team of FOH staff and volunteer ushers, ensuring that all public-facing aspects of the production ran smoothly — including ticketing, ingress/egress, start of show, and intermission — and maintaining the physical safety of the audience.

## WORLD SCIENCE FESTIVAL / 2013

### VIP TRAVEL COORDINATOR

- ❖ Working closely with car service company Valera Global, I coordinated ground transportation for nearly 200 festival participants — including private cars, group shuttles, and Amtrak travel — to 60 different festival programs over the course of 5 days in all 5 boroughs of New York City.
- ❖ Hired and managed the Transportation Department staff, which consisted of two Assistants and ten VIP Greeters, and created our working system for efficient communication and travel coordination for the VIPs.

#### Reference:

Jessica Baker Vodoor (she/her) - WSF direct-report; former VP Operations, New 42nd St - 917.450.4026 - JessicaBakerNYC@gmail.com

## ELEVATOR REPAIR SERVICE / 2008 - 2009 Season

### ARTISTIC INTERN

- ❖ Rehearsal documentation for the first developmental workshops of *THE SELECT (THE SUN ALSO RISES)*, plus general office organization, development & grant research, travel coordination, etc.

## EVENT MANAGER & BRAND AMBASSADOR

- ❖ Event Manager and Brand Ambassador for companies activating **immersive, performative, and guerilla-style promotions**, including **The Michael Alan Group**, **LeadDog Marketing**, **Productions Plus**, and **the Hype Agency**, for every major brand imaginable.
- ❖ Managed & executed liquor and beverage samplings for Macallan's, Stoli, Bacardi, Tullamore Dew, Coors Light, Codeblue, and SoNu.
- ❖ Responsibilities included organizing teams, overseeing employee timesheets, product management, event recap, consumer interaction, set-up and breakdown, event photography, and social media management.

## ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE, TRAINING & EDUCATION:

### **RAFETUS BY ALI SKYE BENNET** / 2017-2019 / [www.aliskyebennet.com/rafetus.html](http://www.aliskyebennet.com/rafetus.html)

**Finalist:** National Playwrights Conference at The Eugene O'Neill Theater Center (2017)

2019-2020 New Light New Voices Award from New Light Theatre Project

2019 Blue Ink Playwriting Award from American Blues Theater, Chicago

2018-19 Woodward/Newman Drama Award from Bloomington Playwrights Project

2018 Spring Submissions for The Dare Tactic

**Semi-Finalist:** 2019 Burman New Play Award from Barrington Stage Company

2018 National Playwrights Conference at The Eugene O'Neill Theater Center

**Residency:** National Winter Playwrights Retreat (2018 & 2019) from HBMG Foundation

### **SILENCE IS CONSENT: DON'T HOLD YOUR PEACE** / 2016 / [www.aliskyebennet.com/silenceisconsent.html](http://www.aliskyebennet.com/silenceisconsent.html)

Co-Produced with Kareem Lucas. "A collective outcry from Artists and NYPD coming together for a night of urgent dialogue through creative expression, with a mission to rebuild trust, incite change, and inspire hope for the future."

### **COMMERCIAL THEATRE INSTITUTE** / 2016, 2014 / [www.commercialtheaterinstitute.com](http://www.commercialtheaterinstitute.com)

2016: Was asked to speak on the "Emerging Producers" panel for the 14-week program's class.

2014: Graduated from the prestigious CTI 14-Week Program (May); selected for the CTI Summer Intensive at the Eugene O'Neill Theatre Center (July), and attended various one-off workshops (Fall).

### **THE UNTITLED GINSBERG PROJECT** / 2013-2014 / [www.ginsbergproject.weebly.com](http://www.ginsbergproject.weebly.com)

Artistic Producer and Co-Creator. Directed & Conceived by Joshua W. Kelley. "Using an ensemble of young men, this collaboratively-generated theatrical event unearths and physicalizes the heart of Ginsberg's most famous poem, creating an incendiary piece of visceral, audio-visual, and experiential theatre in response; a howl for the 21st century."

### **SINÁPTICA** / 2013 / [www.aliskyebennet.com/sinaptica.html](http://www.aliskyebennet.com/sinaptica.html)

Associate Producer (and star) of short film, *Sináptica*, which has garnered 6 awards and 37 selections in film festivals around the world. Written and Directed by Carlos Durrif.

### **LABYRINTH THEATRE COMPANY'S SUMMER INTENSIVE ENSEMBLE** / June 2012

Acting, writing, movement classes, readings, and ongoing artistic collaboration ever since.

### **NEW YORK UNIVERSITY\*, TISCH SCHOOL OF THE ARTS - VARIOUS THEATRE SCHOOLS** / 2001-2005

*\*Enrolled in University 2001-2002, attended independently 2002-2005*

- ▶ Lee Strasberg Theatre Institute (2001-2003): Acting, Dance, Singing, Dialects, Audition Technique
- ▶ Stone Street Studios (2004): Acting for Film & TV
- ▶ CAP21 Summer Intensive (Summers 2003 & 2005): Dance, Acting, Music, Business of Theatre

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