

# **NANCY KEYSTONE**

director • playwright • designer • visual artist  
founding artistic director : critical mass performance group

## **[with critical mass performance group]**

**Ameryka** written, directed, scenic design by Nancy Keystone, 2010-2018

Created in collaboration with CMPG. Premiered at Shakespeare Center of Los Angeles, 2016; remounted at Kirk Douglas Theatre, 2018  
Named Production Of The Year and Best Ensemble by Stage Raw; Nominated for 7 Ovation Awards, 3 Stage Raw Awards, LA Drama Critics Circle Award .

**Untitled Communion** conceived, directed, scenic design by Nancy Keystone, 2017

Performed as part of REDCAT's New Original Works Festival, Los Angeles

**Parataxes From The Near Side Of The Heart** written & directed by Nancy Keystone, 2015

Created in collaboration with CMPG. Commissioned by Stage Raw Digital Play Festival/Polish Edition, performed at Theatre @ Boston Court.

**Bad Medicine** written & directed by Nancy Keystone, 2014

Created in collaboration with CMPG. Commissioned by Heretick Theatre Lab, live-streamed with the Noir Project at Schkapf Performance Space.

**Alcestis** written, directed, scenic design by Nancy Keystone, 2012-2013

Created in collaboration with CMPG. Developed in part, and performed as work-in-progress at Getty Villa Theatre Lab 2012.

Premiere at Theatre @ Boston Court, Pasadena, CA, June 2013.

LA Drama Critics Circle Best Adaptation award (and nominated for Best Director); Arts in LA Sage Award for Best Adaptation; named one of "10 Best Plays" by LA Weekly (nominated for 5 LA Weekly awards); one of 2013's "Theatre Highlights" by LA Stage Times

**Bread**, 2011 & 2017

Created in collaboration with CMPG. Site specific interactive performance-salon, Cornerstone Theater commission.

**Pose**, 2008

Reinvention of Allan Kaprow's happening, in collaboration with MOCA's "Allan Kaprow—Art As Life"; site specific along 22 miles of Sunset Blvd.

**365 Days/365 Plays** by Suzan-Lori Parks, 2007

Week 47: Critical Mass Performance Group at Angels Gate Cultural Center, San Pedro

**Apollo [Parts 1, 2, 3]** written, directed, scenic design by Nancy Keystone, 2001-2009

Created in collaboration with CMPG. Full production including World Premiere of PART 3 at Portland Center Stage.

"Drammy" award for excellence in scenic design. Part of the U.S. Exhibition at the 2011 Prague Quadrennial for Performance Design and Space.

**Apollo [Part 1: Lebensraum, Part 2: Gravity]** written, directed, scenic design by Nancy Keystone, 2001-2005

Created in collaboration with CMPG. World premiere at CTG's Kirk Douglas Theatre, Los Angeles, June 2005.

Garland Awards for Playwriting, Sound Design, Lighting Design; *Backstage West* Critics' Picks: Best Production, Directing, Ensemble, Scenic Design, Video Design; "Top Ten Plays of 2005," *LA Alternative Press*; "Pick of the Week," *L.A. Weekly*.

**Antigone** written, directed, scenic design by Nancy Keystone, 2000-2001

World Premiere, Portland Center Stage, Portland, OR.

First developed through a workshop with The Actors' Gang and Critical Mass Performance Group in Los Angeles, 2000.

**The Akhmatova Project** creator, director, scenic designer, producer by Nancy Keystone 1997-2000  
 Created in collaboration with CMPG. World Premiere at the Actors' Gang Theatre, Los Angeles (2000).  
 Named one of the "10 Best" Productions for 2000, by *Los Angeles Times*, nominated for 4 *LA Weekly* awards.  
 Performed as a work-in-progress at ASK Theater Projects' Common Ground Festival (June 1998); The Getty Center (Sept. 1998)

**Measure for Measure** by William Shakespeare (director, scenic designer, producer) 1991  
 Named one of the "10 Best" plays, 1991, *L.A. Reader*.  
 Toured to Los Angeles, Santa Barbara, and Ojai, California, performed in alternative spaces.

**The Rover** by Aphra Behn (director, scenic designer, producer) 1989-1990  
 Staged in a vacant locker room at the Hollywood Recreation Center, and also in a modernistic mansion, in celebration of El Dia de los Muertos.

**Dr. Faustus** by Christopher Marlowe (director, scenic & costume designer, producer) 1988  
 Staged in Joseppi's Bar Santa Barbara, CA.

**Baal** by Bertolt Brecht (director, scenic & costume designer, producer) 1985  
 Staged in a basement room, UCLA

### [other directing work, selected]

**Next To Normal** by Brian Yorkey & Tom Kitt 2017  
 East West Players, Los Angeles, CA Ovation Award for Best Direction of a Musical, Best Production of a Musical (6 other nominations /2 wins)

**How to Disappear Completely and Never be Found** by Fin Kennedy, 2011 (also scenic design)  
 The Theatre @ Boston Court, Pasadena, CA

**The 39 Steps** by Patrick Barlow 2010  
 Portland Center Stage, Oregon

**365 Days/365 Plays** by Suzan-Lori Parks 2007 (also scenic design)  
 Week 52: Center Theatre Group at the Marina Pavilion, Los Angeles

**The America Play** by Suzan-Lori Parks, 2006 (also scenic design)  
 The Theatre at Boston Court, Pasadena, CA . *Los Angeles Times* and *Backstage West* "Critics' Pick;" Nominated for *LA Weekly* award for set design.

**Underneath the Lintel** by Glen Berger, 2005 (also scenic design)  
 Portland Center Stage, Oregon

**Cymbeline** by William Shakespeare, 2003 (also scenic design)  
 Georgia Shakespeare Festival, Atlanta, GA  
 Named one of "Ten Best Theatre Events of 2003," by *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*; "Ten Best Productions of 2003," by *Southern Voice*

**Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?** by Edward Albee, 2003  
 Portland Center Stage, OR.  
 "Best Actor" and "Best Actress" Drammies for George and Martha.

**A Doll's House** by Henrik Ibsen, 1999 (also scenic design)  
 Actor's Express, Atlanta, GA  
 Named "Best Director," 1999, *The Atlanta Press*

**A Midsummer Night's Dream** by William Shakespeare, 1998 (also scenic design)  
San Francisco Shakespeare Festival

**Othello** by William Shakespeare, 1997 (also scenic design)  
Georgia Shakespeare Festival  
Named one of the "Ten Best" Productions in Atlanta, 1997, *Creative Loafing*

**The Misanthrope** by Moliere, 1996 (also scenic design)  
Actor's Express, Atlanta, GA

**Three Sisters** by Anton Chekhov, 1996 (also scenic design)  
Actor's Express, Atlanta, GA  
Named "Best Director" and "Best Production," 1996, *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*

**Hamlet** by William Shakespeare, 1995 (also scenic design)  
Actor's Express, Atlanta, GA.

**Don Giovanni** (opera) by W.A. Mozart and L. Da Ponte 1994  
San Luis Obispo Mozart Festival

**Le Nozze di Figaro** (opera) by W.A. Mozart and L. Da Ponte 1993  
San Luis Obispo Mozart Festival

**Low Level Panic** by Clare McIntyre 1992  
American premiere of British play produced by The Continuum, Carpet Co. Stage, Los Angeles.  
Winner of the *L.A. Weekly* award for Best Ensemble, and 5 *L.A. Drama-Logue* awards.

**Livietta and Tracollo** (opera) by Giovanni Pergolesi 1990  
Long Beach Opera

### [festival performance events]

**Artistic Director, Santa Barbara Summer Solstice Celebration** 1995

A community-based art & performance parade and festival; 600 participants, 100,000 spectators. Responsible for selection and supervision of artists-in-residence, supervision of month-long public workshop where parade elements and performance were created, recruitment of parade participants, coordination of parade ensembles, public speaking, media interviews, overall artistic supervision and direction of parade and festival.

**Sun Song & Stories of the Sun** (adapted, directed, choreographed and designed) 1990, 1991

Community-based, transcultural, multi-media performances, staged in the Santa Barbara Courthouse gardens in conjunction with the Santa Barbara Summer Solstice Celebration and Critical Mass Performance Group. Utilizing three performance areas simultaneously, by narrators, musicians, dancers, and puppeteers, spoken and sung in English and Spanish, with American Sign Language interpretation.

### [film]

**How Many Miles/Hour Do You Sleep?** (wrote and directed) 1999

Critical Mass Films  
8mm, black and white, 3 minutes

**The Housekeeper** (wrote and directed) 1998

FXM Shorts (Fox Television), has been seen in film festivals throughout the US, Europe and Japan. 35mm, color, 8 minutes

**[related theatre/design experience]**

- Visiting Associate Professor, UCLA 1995-present (teaching CV upon request)
- Guest Lecturer: Cal Arts, Portland Art Institute, Portland State, Cal State LA
- Exhibiting Visual Artist, 1988-present (exhibition list available upon request)
- Design Co-Consultant for Portland Center Stage's Gerding Theatre at the Armory, Portland, OR 2005-2006
- Artist-in-Residence, Portland Center Stage, Portland OR, 2003-2005
- Artistic Associate, Actor's Express, Atlanta, GA, 1995-2000
- Resident Director for The Continuum, Los Angeles, CA, 1990-1994

**[awards, grants, fellowships]**

- Doris Duke Performing Artist Award, 2014
- Ovation Award for Best Direction of a Musical for *Next To Normal*, 2017
- Stage Raw Production of the Year Award for *Ameryka*, 2017
- Lee Melville Award for Contribution to Los Angeles Theatre, 2017
- *LA Weekly* award for Best Play (Adaptation), *Alcestis*, 2014
- LA Drama Critics Circle award for Best Writing (Adaptation), *Alcestis*, 2014
- Fellow, Los Angeles Institute of the Humanities, USC, 2012
- United States Artists Hoi Fellow, 2011
- Stanford Calderwood Fellowship, MacDowell Colony, 2010
- "Drammy" Award for excellence in scenic design, *Apollo*, 2009
- *Apollo* part of the United States Exhibition at 2011 Prague Quadrennial for Performance Design and Space
- Durfee Foundation ARC grant, 2008
- APAP/Doris Duke Foundation Ensemble Theatres Collaborations Grant (with Portland Center Stage), 2007
- Center for Cultural Innovation's Investing In Artists Grant, 2007, 2010
- NEA Access to Artistic Excellence grant (with Portland Center Stage), 2006-7
- Alfred P. Sloan Foundation Commission for *Apollo [Part 3]: Liberation*, 2006
- TCG Alan Schneider Director Award, 2003
- Garland Award for Playwriting *Apollo [Part 1]: Lebensraum*, 2005
- National Theatre Artist Residency Grant (with Portland Center Stage), TCG/Pew Charitable Trust, 2002
- *LA Weekly* Award for Choreography ("The Akhmatova Project"), 2000
- Fellowship, California Community Foundation, 1999
- "Best Director," *Atlanta Press*, ("A Doll's House") 1999
- City of Los Angeles Cultural Affairs Department Grant, 1998
- "Best Director/Best Production," *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, ("Three Sisters"), 1996
- *L.A. Drama-Logue* Award for Directing ("Low Level Panic"), 1992
- Fellowship, Drama League of New York, New Directors' Project, 1988

**[education]**

- MFA in Directing, Carnegie-Mellon University, 1988
- BA in Theatre Arts, University of California, Los Angeles, 1985
- European Art Studies Abroad Program (history and studio), Santa Barbara City College, 1985