

Gregory Keng Strasser
Director, Writer, and Arts Leader
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CURRENT EXPERIENCE:

Director of Stage, Film/TV, Audio, and Video Games (2015 - Present)

Upcoming Projects:

- *Hin und Zuruk* by Paul Hindemith (March 2022) @ Peabody Conservatory, Baltimore, MD - Opera [Co-Directed with Alison Moritz]
- *Les Mamelles de Tiresias* by Francis Poulenc (March 2022) @ Peabody Conservatory, Baltimore, MD - Opera [Co-Directed with Alison Moritz]
- *Song of Achilles* adapted from Madeline Miller by Gregory Keng Strasser (April 2022) @ Shenandoah University, Winchester, VA - Play

Completed Projects:

- *Por Lo Que Soy* by Jordanna Hernandez
4615 Theatre Company (December 2021) - Festival Production
- *Artichoke Country* by Laura Shamas
Spooky Action Theatre Company (June 2021) - Short Film
- *Dark City* by Gregory Keng Strasser and Sara Eskandari
4615 Theatre Company (May 2021) - Video Game, 4 Episodes
- *Vlad Ash* by Navid Azeez for *Paperless Pulp*
Cyri, No! by Alexandra Petri for *Paperless Pulp*
Starchild Diaries by Seamus Sullivan for *Paperless Pulp*
Flying V, Audio series, 3 episodes (May 2021)
- *Scuttlebutt, Confirmed* by Robert Montenegro
Catholic University, Film (November 2020)
- *The Infinite Tales* (self-adapted)
4615 Theatre Company (December, 2019) - World Premiere
The Kennedy Center (August, 2019) - Staged Reading
- *The Odyssey* by Homer (Trans. Emily Wilson, self-adapted)
Brighton Center for the Performing Arts (July, 2018) - World Premiere
- *410|GONE|* by Frances Ya-Chu Cowhig
Rorschach Theatre Company, Washington DC (March, 2018) - DC Premiere
- *The White Snake* by Mary Zimmerman
MOSAIC & University of Michigan (Dec 2016), Ann Arbor, MI - Michigan Premiere
- *Tribes* by Nina Raine
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI - Michigan Premiere
- *Grand Concourse* by Heidi Schreck
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI - Michigan Premiere

- *Istanbul* by Stuart Richardson
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI – World Premiere

Workshops, readings, in-development:

- *The Peachlanders* by Lyra Yang
Horticulture Playwriting Fellowship (December 2020) – Workshop
Horticulture Playwriting Fellowship (June 2021) – Virtual Reading
WSC Avant Bard Scripts-in-Play Festival (October 2021) – Staged Reading
WIP Arts (November 2021) – Streamed Staged Reading
- *Miku, and the Gods* by Julia Izumi
Rorschach Theatre (August 2021) – Virtual Reading
- *Banana* by Sam Hamashima
The New Cosmopolitans (September 2020) – Virtual Reading
- *Nezha, or the Creation of the Hero* by Lyra Yang
Asian American/Pacific Islander Theatre Artists of the DMV (May, 2020) – Workshop
- *Doi Nang Non* (co-conceived with Makahmpom Theatre Group, Splashing Theatre in Bangkok, Thailand; Funded by the Henry Luce Foundation and the Asia Foundation + Donors)
Siam-Pic Ganesha Theatre (May, 2019) – Workshop production
- *Oplontis: A Roman Tragedy* by Reid Herrid
Self-Produced (September, 2018) – Workshop
- *Performing the Anthropocene* (Numerous authors, self-adaptations of various poems)
Laboratory for Global Performance and Politics (April, 2018)
- *Derangements: Putting the Unthinkable On Stage* (self-adapted)
Laboratory for Global Performance and Politics (April, 2018)
- *Bleecker Street* by Eric Grant
The Kennedy Center, Washington DC (October, 2018) – Workshop
- *The Osiriyian Tales* (Trans. Richard Wilkinson, self-adapted)
Yayasan Bali Purnati (June, 2017) – Workshop
- *The Living Lakes* (devised with Anita Gonzalez and Joel Valentin-Martinez)
Global Midwest (May, 2017) – World Premiere

Assistantships:

- *Celia and Fidel* by Eduardo Machado; Directed by Molly Smith | 2021, Arena Stage, DC
- *Celia and Fidel* by Eduardo Machado; Directed by Molly Smith | 2020, Arena Stage, DC
- *A Thousand Splendid Suns* by Khaled Hosseini, adapted by Ursula R. Sarna, Directed by Carey Perloff | Arena Stage, DC
- *Right to be Forgotten* by Sharyn Rothstein; Directed by Seema Sueko | Arena Stage, DC
- *A Departure* by Daria Miyeko Marinelli; Directed by Jesca Prudencio | The Kennedy Center, DC
- *The Wish* by Crystal Adaway; Directed by Jordan Friend | The Kennedy Center, DC
- *Trayf* by Lindsay Joelle; Directed by Derek Goldman | Theatre J, Washington DC

- *The Cherry Orchard* by Anton Chekov, directed by Daniel Cantor | UV Theatre, Lake Forest, IL
Assistant Director
- *Disney's The Little Mermaid* by Menken, Slater, Ashman, and Wright | University of Michigan
Assistant Director

Producing Director at 4615 Theatre Company, DC/MD (Since Dec 2017)

[4615 Theatre Company](#) is a DC and Maryland-based producing organization entering its fourth year of operations with an operating budget of \$85,000. Producing at The Writer's Center in Bethesda, and the Dance Loft on 14th Street in DC, 4615 programs approximately 4-5 productions a season from July to April in Maryland and Washington DC. Previous seasons included a summer repertory of two plays, world premieres, and an experimental reimaging of a classical text.

- Architect of anti-racism policy, conducted from organizing a company-wide Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Report to create standards and benchmarks for recruitment and season programming. Unanimously approved by board of directors.
- Driving strategy and operationalizing the artistic mission of the organization, including spearheading initiatives such as the [BIPOC Emerging Theatre Leaders Forum](#) which gathered nearly 25 emergent BIPOC-led organizations to activate our mutual braintrust; and [4615GO](#), which saw development of a video game, a free video-streaming series, and two solo performances. Employed 15 artists, half of which were BIPOC, throughout the season.
- Managing social media marketing including Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. Followers on each social media platform grew by at least 60% beginning January 2021; designed graphics using GoDaddy Studio, Adobe Photoshop, and other platforms.

Project Analyst at AMS Planning & Research, DC (March 2021 - Present)

Fellow (October 2020 - Jan 2021)

AMS Research & Planning is an international consulting and management firm based in Connecticut with offices in Sacramento.

- Primary and secondary research: Building a case-for-support through studying stakeholder interest in expansion of the [Gogue Performing Arts Center](#)'s facilities; Providing exemplar and comparable institution research for the city of [Fair Oaks](#), California; and guiding development strategy of the Performing Arts Initiative in Oregon; conducting a feasibility study for a new conference-cultural facility for MC3 in Annapolis, Maryland.
- Creating white papers and articles for distribution to AMS' partners and webinar subscribers.
- Conducting environmental scan to take inventory of cultural assets in Eastside region of Washington state for client work. Over 70 organizations and venues tracked from over hundreds researched. Data synthesized into concrete recommendations for client's success strategy.

WRITING:

- *Song of Achilles* (2022, Full-length play) - Upcoming adaptation of novel by Madeline Miller, April 2022
Produced by Shenandoah University; self-directed
- *The 51st State* (2020, Full-length film, Segment: “Go”) - World Premiere, September 2020
Produced by Arena Stage; Directed by Molly Smith, Segment directed by Pslamayene 24
- *May 22, 2020* (2020, Full-length film, Segment: “*The Heart’s Rage*”) - World Premiere, May 2020
Produced by Arena Stage; Directed by Molly Smith
- *Big Snow* (2020, TYA One-Act)
Adventure Theatre-MTC, Artistic Director: Chil Kong
- *Dark City* (2021, Video Game Visual Novel - 4 Episodes) - May 2021
Produced by 4615 Theatre Company
- *Rep Us All* (2020, Short) - World Premiere, June 2020
Rorschach Theatre, directed by Stan Kang
- *The Infinite Tales* (2019, Full-length play) - World Premiere, December 2019
4615 Theatre Company, self-directed
- *The Odyssey* (2020, TYA One-Act) - World Premiere of Emily Wilson’s translation, July 2018
Brighton Center for the Performing Arts

SPEAKING/PANELS/TEACHING:

- **Guest Lecturer, Peabody Conservatory, Johns Hopkins University:** “Acting for Opera”
- **Organizer, Moderator; 4615 Theatre Company, USA:** “4615GO: Reflections”
- **Speaker, Kumaraguru University, India:** “Expert Conversation on Writing, Directing, and Developing New Stories”
- **Speaker, University of Michigan, USA:** Directing Alumni Q&A
- **Guest Lecturer, University of Michigan, USA:** Directing II: “World-Building for Directors, a case study of *410/GONE*”
- **Organizer, Host; 4615 Theatre Company, USA & Colombia:** Black, Indigenous, and People of Color Emerging Theatre Leaders Forum
- **Speaker, Adventure Theatre-MTC, USA:** Summer Season Preview

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE:

Allen Lee Hughes Directing Fellow at Arena Stage, Washington DC (Aug 2019-May 2020)

Arena Stage is a \$19 million, LORT B+, Equity theater, which operates three venues: the 683-seat Fichandler Theater in the round, the 510-seat proscenium Kreeger Theater, and the 200-seat experimental Kogod Theater. The Allen Lee Hughes Fellowship is for emerging directors of color to assist on several mainstage productions, as well as work in the Artistic Development department to steward the theatre’s mission and commitment to the development of American plays.

- Directing Assistant: *Right to be Forgotten, A Thousand Splendid Suns, Celia and Fidel*
- Planning Team and Recorder: PowerPlays Summit
- Artistic Development Representative at all internal workshops, readings, and other events.

- Commissioned Writer: *May 22, 2020* (film), and an untitled upcoming film.

Cohabitation Cohort at Odin Teatret, Holstebro, Denmark (March 2019 - May 2019)

Based in Holstebro, Denmark, Odin Teatret is a 50-year-old performing arts and research institution that creates innovative and experimental new works with a diverse and global ensemble that tours regionally and internationally. As a member of the inaugural Cohabitation Cohort, I worked with 30 other individuals from across the world with director Carolina Pizarro to create four untitled performances which toured across Holstebro.

Apprentice at Laboratory for Global Performance and Politics, Georgetown University, Washington DC (Jan 2018 - July 2019)

The Laboratory for Global Performance and Politics is a performing arts and research institution dedicated to using performance to humanize global politics. Led by Derek Goldman and Cynthia Schneider, the institution creates and presents productions, as well as empowers artists from across the world through the fellowship program. As apprentice, I assisted in working with the artistic director to plan and organize a climate-change theatre festival, teach students principles of new work and directing, and create new plays including my new adaptation of *The Odyssey*. The Lab also supported my 10-month travel to Bangkok, Thailand where I scouted and recruited Thai-theatre makers into our network and developed a new play based on the Wildboars soccer team, *Doi Nang Non*.

Other Affiliations:

- Intern at The Kennedy Center, Theater Programming, Washington DC (Jan 2018 - May 2018)
- Assistant at Shanghai Media Group, Washington D.C. (Sept 2017 - Jan 2018)
- Development Intern at Steppenwolf Theatre Co, Chicago, IL (May 2016 - Sept 2016)
- Artistic and Development Intern at About Face Theatre Co, Chicago, IL (May 2015 - Sept 2015)

VIDEO GAMES

Dark City, 2021 (RenPy)

The Telemachy, 2017 (RenPy)

Terminal, 2017 (Twine)

HONORS & FELLOWSHIPS:

June 2020: Horticulture Playwriting Fellowship, Washington DC (accepted)

October 2020: Commission on the Arts & Humanities Fellow, Washington DC (accepted)

April 2019: Allen Lee Hughes Directing Fellowship, Washington DC (accepted)

June 2017: Yayasan Bali Purnati Resident Artist Fellowship, Bali, Indonesia (accepted)

June 2017: Resident Artist at Avalon International Academy (accepted)

August 2017: Ragdale Foundation Fellowship - Lake Forest, IL (accepted)

Jan 2017: US Fulbright Semi-Finalist - Ireland

DEGREES:

April, 2017: University of Michigan, BFA: Theatre Directing, Minors in American Culture and Performing Arts Management.

- Thesis: *The White Snake* by Mary Zimmerman (Dec, 2016)
- Capstone(s): "Moving Beyond Representation: Queer & DIY Video Games" (March, 2017)

SKILLS:

Language fluency: Proficient speaker in Mandarin Chinese (HSK2); Proficient in Adobe Premiere/Photoshop; Pianist; Cinematography; Projection Design; TEFL-certified English Teacher; Consensus Organizing for the theatre methodology; Data collection and analysis; Proficient in RenPy coding/Twine coding; Wix/Squarespace/HTML; Excellent fundraiser; stakeholder interviews; public speaking and presenting; SWOT analysis; research; contract negotiations; budgeting.

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