

JACK NOVAK

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EDUCATION

MFA in Creative Writing and Writing for the Performing Arts University of California, Riverside
Concentration: Playwriting, Screenwriting December, 2022

- Graduate lecture: “Play the -Linear Writing Non-” —a lecture on non-linear dramatic writing.
- Thesis works: *Retcon* (full-length drama); *Failure* (one-hour TV pilot)
- Thesis Advisor: Michael Birnbaum

Bachelor of Science, Theatre, cum laude Northwestern University
June, 2009

AWARDS

Arts & Humanities Fellowship Project – Grantee (Teaching Artist)	DC Commission on the Arts & Humanities 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022
Arts & Humanities Fellowship Project – Grantee (Playwright)	DC Commission on the Arts & Humanities 2018
Aurand Harris Memorial Playwriting Award – <i>Journeying Jack</i> (with David Novak)	New England Theatre Conference 2016
Winner, Dramatic Writing Competition, One-Act Category – <i>Crazy Weird</i>	Adirondack Shakespeare Company 2016
Agnes Nixon Playwriting Award – <i>A Decade of Wandering</i>	Northwestern University 2008

BODY OF WORK

Commissions

Marvelous Mickey, Only Make Believe (Touring Production, ongoing—commissioned 2023) – interactive touring play performed for children in hospitals, care facilities, and special education schools.

Dr. Automaton’s Android, Only Make Believe (Virtual Production, ongoing—commissioned 2020) – interactive virtual play performed live online for children at sites nationwide.

Kaz on Canvas, Filament Theater Ensemble (Unproduced, 2016) – Theater for the Very Young (under 5); interactive play exploring the emotional journey of creating art.

The Great Lt. Sprinkle Didn’t Save Me, Field Trip Theater (Workshop & Production, 2015); as short play for Rorschach Theater, Klecksography festival (Production, 2013) – full-length ghost play.

Fanatics (Book and Lyrics), Imagination Stage (Production, 2015) – full length musical professionally produced with young actors as part of Speak Out Onstage program (see above).

Interface (Book and Lyrics), Imagination Stage (Production, 2014) – full length musical professionally produced with young actors as part of Speak Out Onstage program (see above).

Alice and Me, Filament Theater Ensemble (Touring Production, 2010) – interactive play for young audiences, adapted from *Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland* and *Through the Looking-Glass*, by Lewis Carroll.

Additional Productions

This Historic Night, Capital Fringe Festival (2018) – collection of five original short plays.

Panel Discussion, Samuel French Off-Off Broadway Festival (2017) – short play.

A Decade of Wandering, St. Bonaventure University (2016) – cycle of folktale-inspired short plays on a theme.

Fox Cried, *devised work, self-produced (2015) – full-length multidisciplinary devised work, expanded from short work commissioned by Source Festival.

From the Circle, *devised work, Filament Theater Ensemble (2011) – full-length devised ensemble storytelling piece.

James Bond in: Nickle and Die, *partially devised, Annoyance Theater (2011) – one-act parody.

Life in Three Dimensions, Mercury Players Theater (2009) – short play.

Festivals/Events

Detective Kelcey and the Equinox Paradox, Imagination Stage, Play in a Day (Production, 2016) – short absurd play.

back to the island, Rorschach Theater, Klecksography festival (Production, 2015) – short play with music.

Fox Cried, *devised work, Source Festival (Production, 2013) – short multidisciplinary devised work, one of Source Festival “Artistic Blind Dates.” Later expanded and self-produced. (see above)

Development

Retcon, Independent (Reading, 2023) – full-length drama.

Transferal, Spooky Action Theater (Workshop & Reading, 2020); Rorschach Theater (Workshop & Reading, 2018) – full-length drama.

Crazy Weird, Adirondack Shakespeare Company (Reading, 2016) – one-act drama.

Journeying Jack (with David Novak), Asheville Creative Arts (Workshop & Reading, 2015) – full-length TYA play.

A Decade of Wandering, Filament Theater Ensemble (Reading, 2013); Northwestern University (Workshop & Reading, 2009) – see above.

Additional Unproduced Work

The Gospel of Maree – Full-length Quirky Drama; As a doomsday cult leader sincerely predicts the end of the world every year, and is constantly disappointed, she explores the nature of faith, healing, and belonging in this world while searching for the key to gain her access to Spaceship Heaven.

Television Pilots

Failure – One-Hour Sardonic Family Drama; *When an unfulfilled theater director is pressured into teaching drama at his ambitious daughter’s ultra-privileged school, he juggles his roles as parent vs. artist as he tries to assert his highbrow artistic vision over this vacuous realm of musical theater drones.*

The Lizard People – Half-hour Conspiracy Fiction Comedy; *When a headstrong idealist fed up with self-interested and incompetent bosses is hired by the Illuminati to save them from their inept selves, she must learn to work with, not against, them to keep the world from falling apart, while attempting to do some good, in the process.*