

## **Passage Theatre Company Production History**

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### **1985**

*The Undoing* by William Mastrosimone is produced at the Mill Hill Playhouse. The show's success sparks the founding of Passage Theatre by Veronica Brady, director of the show.

### **1986-87**

Passage produces *Essentials* by Pearl Clege and *American Shorts*, a collection of one-act plays commissioned for the Theatre, including plays by Mastrosimone, Keith Curran, Zina Jasper, Casey Curtti, Donald Marguiles and Donald J. Rothchild.

### **1987-88**

Mainstage productions *In This Fallen City* by Bryan Williams, *The Madonna Project* by Francis P. Bilancio, *Queen Christina* which was commissioned by New Jersey State Museum.

### **1988-89**

Mainstage productions *American Shorts '89* featuring works by Mastrosimone, and John Sayles, *Bob's Guns* by Jim McGrath, *The Dance Concert* by June Anderson and Nancy Theil, *King of Dominoes* by Bill Vargas.

### **1989-90**

*I, Lionel* and *Occupation: Troubadour*, both by Bryan Williams, *Palm Sunday* by Paula Cizmar, along with several readings and workshops. Nine plays are also performed in the **Lunchtime Productions** series.

### **1990-91**

Mastrosimone's *Sunshine* at the Mill Hill Playhouse, readings and workshops include **Roebling Steel** by Jim McGrath, and **Mr. Parnell** by Larry Kirwan. **Lunchtime Productions** is highlighted by Chekhov's **The Marriage Proposal** performed by the National Asian American Theatre Company.

### **1991-92**

McGrath's **Roebling Steel** (World Premiere) directed by Stephen Stout is performed in a factory in the Roebling complex. Veronica Brady directs **Thin Air: Tales From a Revolution** by Lynne Alvarez.

## Passage Theatre Production History

### **1992-93**

Walter Allen Bennet, Jr.'s ***This City of Dreams*** set in Trenton produced at the Mill Hill Playhouse.  
Reading series includes Mastro Simone's ***Burning Desire***.

### **1995-96**

#### **Three More Gone** (World Premiere)

By Bruce Jacoby

Directed by Stephen Stout

#### **Avenue X**

By Jon Jiler

Directed by Stephen Stout

#### **Write On,**

*the start of The State Street Project with the Trenton After School Program*

*Directed by June Ballinger*

### **1996-97**

#### **Trenton Giants**

By Jim McGrath

Directed by Mary McGinley

**presented for one workshop performance at the Mill Hill Playhouse.**

#### **Signature**

by Beth Henley

directed by Stephen Stout

#### **Pee Wee and the Wheelman**

By Rita Nachtmann

Directed by Stephen Stout

### **1997-98**

**Winterfest**, a series of staged readings of works by five playwrights hosted at four venues around the city.

#### **The State Street Project**

*An after school mentoring program that pairs children and youth with theater professionals in order to foster creativity, a sense of accomplishment, and a love of theatre and the arts in Trenton's youth stages first full productions with sets and costumes, **No Way Jose**.*

## Passage Theatre Production History

### **1998-99**

***Move It and It's Yours*** (World Premiere- selected by the *Star-Ledger* as the New Jersey musical of the year) written by *Bill Weeden, David Finkle and Sally Fay*

*Directed by Susan Rosenstock*

***Black Comedy: The Wacky Side of Racism***

*written and performed by Nancy Giles*

*Directed by Ellie Covan*

### **1999-2000**

***Gift of the Magi*** based on the short story by *O. Henry*

*music & lyrics by Peter Ekstrom*

*Directed by Mark Roberts*

***Bang Bang Your Dead***

*by William Mastrosimone*

*Searing drama addressing teen violence, performed by a cast of Mercer County High School students*

***Zora Neale Hurston***

*by Laurence Holder*

*directed by Wynn Handman*

***Blinding Light*** (World Premiere)

*By William Mastrosimone*

*directed by Julie Boyd*

## Passage Theatre Production History

### **2000-2001**

#### ***Welcome Home Marian Anderson***

Written and Performed by Vanessa Shaw

Directed by Elizabeth van Dyke

#### ***Solo Flights Festival*** (A series of works by solo artists)

- ***Surface Transit*** a free performance for high school students presented in conjunction with the Fleet Diversity Series at the Trenton War Memorial
- ***Love Suites*** an evening of Spoken Word, Music, and Dance written by and featuring Mo Beasely
- ***Manchild In The Promised Land*** based on the novel of the same name by Claude Brown performed by Joseph Edward and presented in conjunction with the City of Trenton for Black History Month
- ***Fly*** written and performed by Joseph Edward

#### ***Victor and the Virgin***

by Thomas Dunn

#### ***Workshop- Moving Bodies***

By Arthur Giron

Directed by Chris Smith

## Passage Theatre Production History

### **2001-2002**

#### **The Book of Candy**

A new musical by Susan Dworkin & Mel Marvin Co-production with Playwrights Theatre of New Jersey  
Directed by Avi Spindell

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Solo Flights: 4 Solo Performers, 4 Original Shows**

- **Florida Girls** Written and performed by Nancy Hasty
- **Manchild In The Promised Land:** Adapted for the stage by Joseph Edward & Wynn Handman from the autobiography of Claude Brown
- **TranceZenDance:** Written and performed by Johnny Kwon, Directed by Tony Petito
- **Notes from A Negro Neurotic :** Written and performed by Nancy Giles
- **Robeson:** Written by Philip Hayes Dean, Featuring Chuck Cooper, Directed by Jeffrey Thompson

#### **STATE STREET PROJECT**

An after school mentoring program that pairs children and youth with theater professionals in order to foster creativity, a sense of accomplishment, and a love of theatre and the arts in Trenton's youth.  
This year's projects are:

Playmaking -- By Hook or By Crook November 10

Directed by Nick Anselmo

7 short plays written by our SSP kids and acted by professional adult actors.

Mixed Blessings for the Holiday

Directed by Nick Anselmo

Plays written specifically to fit the talents of the young people in our program. Each play stars an SSP member with additional cast members played by professionals.

Playmaking -- On The Job June 8

Directed by Nick Anselmo

10 short plays written by our SSP kids and acted by professional adult actors.

## Passage Theatre Production History

### **2002-2003**

**Mosaic: Fragments of a Jewish Life** by Robin Hirsch

#### **3rd Annual Solo Flights**

- **Manchild In The Promised Land** based on the novel of the same name by Claude Brown performed by Joseph Edward and presented in conjunction with Black History Month
- **Heavy Mettle** written and performed by Richard Hoehler
- **No Lie** written and performed by Aaron Jafferis
- **High Dive** written and performed by Leslie Ayvazian
- **Comedy Tonight** written and performed by Nancy Giles and Joseph Edward

#### **Lovely Day (4 performance AEA workshop)**

written by Leslie Ayvazian

Directed by Leah Silverman

**Shangri-La (workshop; one performance)** written by Yusef Komunyakaa, composed by Susie Ibarra

### **2003-2004**

#### **The Afghan Women, (World Premiere)**

written by William Mastrosimone (selected by the Star-Ledger as one of the ten best plays of 2003)

Directed by Bob Kalfin

#### **Fourth Annual Solo Flights Festival**

- **The Man Who Danced with Marlene Dietrich**, written and performed by Robin Hirsch
- **Watermelon- Git it while it's Hot**, written and performed by Cece Antoinette
- **Downloaded and In Denial**, written and performed by Cynthia Adler  
directed by Bob Kalfin
- **From Tel Aviv to Ramallah**  
written and performed by Yuri Lane
- **Christine Lavin**
- **Loves and Longings**  
Vince DiMura, Kip Rosser, Dan Fabricatore,
- **JoAnne Brackeen:Jazz Pianist**

#### **Mahalia's Light, (World Premiere)**

conceived by Queen Esther Marrow, Roseanne Kirk, Richard Bell

Directed by Mercedes Ellington

## Passage Theatre Production History

### **2004-2005**

***Willie B Came Into The Sun, (World Premiere)***

*written by Jean Sterrett*

*Directed by Bob Kalfin*

***Rosemary and I (re-staging of new draft)***

*written by Leslie Ayvazian*

*directed by Blair Brown*

***Pretty Fire (with the assistance of St Louis Black Repertory Company)***

*written by Charlayne Woodard*

### **2005-2006**

***Move It and It's Yours- remount.***

Written by Bill Weeden, David Finkle and Sally Fay

Directed by Jeff Cohen

### **5<sup>th</sup> Annual SOLO FLIGHT**

□ ***Love to All Lorraine***

Written and performed by Elizabeth Van Dyke

Directed by Woodie King Jr.

### ***The Stone Carver***

Written by William Mastrosimone

Directed by Bob Kalfin

State Street Project: ***If I Could in My Could I Would...***

By David Lee White and young people from the Get Set Program

Word for Word- 21 Century programs

Winterfest – a series of new play readings

## Passage Theatre Production History

### **2006-2007**

#### ***Second Line***

By Seret Scott; directed by Reggie Life

#### **6<sup>th</sup> Annual SOLO FLIGHTS FESTIVAL**

➤ **Ole! Alborada Dance Company**

➤ **Underneath the Lintel**

Written by Glen Berger

Performed by Chris Coucill

Directed by David Stradley

➤ **Tea for Three**

By Eric H. Weinberger

performed by Elaine Bromka

Director Byam Stevens

➤ **Beat Box Chicago**

Written and performed by Yuri Lane

➤ **For Lost Words**

Composed and created by Vince DiMura from the poetry of Yusef Komunyakaa

#### ***The Deacons***

by Yusef Komunyakaa

Directed by Kemati Porter

#### **State Street Project and community**

##### *Fire Girls*

by David Lee White

performed by State Street Project Ensemble

Playmaking - 21 century Program

Directed by David Lee White

#### ***Trenton Lights (reading)***

written by June Ballinger based on the interviews with seniors from the Trenton Community



## Passage Theatre Production History

### **2007-2008**

#### **Playwrights' lab workshop**

*Random Horrible Thoughts About Love*

September 27-30, 2007

Written by David L. White

Directed by Adam Immerwahr

#### **The Devil's Music: The Life and Blues of Bessie Smith**

Written by Angelo Parra

Directed by Joe Brancato

#### **Pa's Hat – AEA Workshop**

January 24—27, 2008

Written by Cori Thomas

Directed by Chuck Patterson

#### **7<sup>th</sup> Annual Solo Flights Festival:**

- **It goes without saying**  
Written and Performed by Bill Bowers  
Developed with and Directed by Martha Banta
- **Fuego: The Fire Within**  
Principal Dancer & Choreographer: Eva Lucena  
Music Director & Principal Guitarist: Carlos Revollar
- **For Lost Words**  
Conceived and composed by Vince di Mura
- **A Womb With A View**  
Written and performed by Debra Barsha  
Directed and choreographed by Frank Ventura
- **Flat Black**  
Performed by Rodney Gilbert  
Written and Directed by Alysia Souder
- **Metamorphoses**  
Written and Performed by Todd Conner
- **A Sense of Wonder**  
Written and performed by Kaiulani Lee

## Passage Theatre Production History

- **Nimbus Dance Works**  
Artistic Director: Samuel Pott  
Associate Director, Choreographer, Dancer: Michelle deFremery  
Choreographer: John Paul, Jr.
- **Blood Cherries**  
Written and Performed by Dawn Akemi Saito  
Directed by Jonathan Rosenberg, Sabrina Peck
- **Tales from The Beatbox**  
Written and Performed by Yuri Lane

### Playwrights' Lab - The Gallery Plays

- Eleanor Descending a Staircase\*  
By Ian August
- Directed by Paul Whelihan  
\*Inspired by Marcel Duchamp's Nude Descending a Staircase
- Seven in Heaven\*  
By Lynne Elson, Directed by Barbara Hatch  
\*Inspired by René Magritte's The Lovers
- The Marvin Party\*  
By Sonya Aronowitz  
Directed by Jane Stojak  
\*Inspired by Patrick Caufield's Still Life: Autumn Fashion
- Back Fire\*  
By David Lee White  
Directed by Adam Immerwahr  
\*Inspired by René Magritte's Backfire
- The End of My Tour\*  
By Peter Gruen  
Directed by Larissa Lury  
\*Inspired by Norman Rockwell's Homecoming
- Wednesday is Taco Night\*  
By Hope Gatto, Directed by Adam Immerwahr  
\*Inspired by Bill Stoneham's The Hands Resist Him

## Passage Theatre Production History

### **Cecilia's Last Tea Party**

May 8 — June 1, 2008

By Russell Davis

Directed by Will Pomerantz

State Street Project - Play Making: The Kids are in Control!

June 13 & 14, 2008

## Passage Theatre Production History

### **2008-2009**

#### **The Summer House**

By Amber Kain

Directed by Jade King Carroll

### **8<sup>th</sup> Annual SOLO FLIGHTS FESTIVAL**

#### ➤ **Salmonpeople**

Written and performed by Peter Donaldson

#### ➤ **If My Friends Could See Me Now**

Written and performed by Mary Cleere Haran & Don Rebic

#### ➤ **On The Way To Timbuktu**

Written and performed by Petronia Paley

Directed by Talvin Wilks

Percussionist: Yukio Tsuji

#### ➤ **You A Man Now?**

Written and performed by Mo Beasley

Directed by Nick Anselmo

#### ➤ **Ethel Waters: His Eye is on the Sparrow**

By Larry Parr

Directed by Susan D. Atkinson

#### ➤ **The Yellow Wallpaper**

Performed by Michèle LaRue

based on the direction of Warren Kliewer

in his staging of the short story by Charlotte Perkins Gillian

#### ➤ **Ragtime**

Written and Performed by Terry Waldo

#### ➤ **BUST**

Written and Performed by Lauren Weedman

Directed by Allison Narver

Touring Director/Production Stage Manager: Jeff Weatherford

#### ➤ **Nimbus Dance Works**

Artistic Director/Choreographer: Sam Pott

Guest Choreographer: Randy James

## Passage Theatre Production History

### **Instructions for Breathing**

By Caridad Svich

Directed by Daniella Topol

### State Street Project - **Playmaking**

The Wellington Animals

By Max Gatto, Directed by David White

Wrestling Rivalry

By Tomas Ucci

directed by Josh Browns

Secrets and Spiders

By Kenyana Olford

Directed by Hope Gatto

Lyrics: Kenyana Olford

Don't Erase My Brain

By Erin Wallace, Directed by Nick Anselmo

Michael and the Talking Book

By Diana Haiti

Directed by Adam Immerwahr

Gabrielle and Her Two Wishes

By Luciana Ucci

Directed by Damon Bonetti

The Games

By Davon Parks

Directed by David White

Superbaby and Superbot

By Marquis Phillips

Directed by Nick Anselmo

Megabot and Superbot VS. Workerman

By Gbaweah Sandy

Directed by Adam Immerwahr

## Passage Theatre Production History

Playwrights Lab - FM Radio

Stage Manager: Jessica Gallicchio

Sound Board Operator: Sean Varga

Projection Operator: Mathias Goldstein

- Battlefield\*  
By Ian August  
Directed by Ken Wiesinger
  
- Master of the Universe\*  
By Sonya Aronowitz  
Directed by Nick Anselmo
  
- Crazy Crazy On You\*  
By Lynne Elson  
Directed by Jennifer Hunt
  
- The Infanta\*  
By Peter Gruen  
Directed by Nick Anselmo
  
- Can't Fight This Feelin'\*  
By James Christy  
Directed by Adam Immerwahr
  
- Too Late For Goodbyes\*  
By Christopher Kess, Directed by Jane Stojak
  
- Ink\*  
By Hope Gatto, Directed by Jennifer Hunt  
Lynn: Dara Lewis

## Passage Theatre Production History

### **2009-2010**

#### **Ethel Waters—His Eye is on the Sparrow**

Written by Larry Parr

Directed by Robert Lanchester

#### **Blood: A Comedy**

*Written by David Lee White*

*Directed by Adam Immerwahr*

#### **Holiday Musicales**

Vocals: Miche Braden, Christopher Coucill, Sarah Donner, Liz Fillo, Sam Frisby & Best of Friends

Piano: Miche Braden, Sam Frisby & Best of Friends, Michael McLean, Vince di Mura

Bass: Chris Clark

Guitar: Sarah Donner

Cajon : Brad Sicotte

#### **9<sup>th</sup> Annual Solo Flights:**

➤ **Hurricane Season**

Written and performed by Naima and Alexa

➤ **This Is Ragtime**

Written and Performed by Terry Waldo

➤ ***The Reluctant Optimist***

*Written and Performed by Mary Martello*

➤ ***MotherSON***

*Written and Performed by Jeffrey Solomon*

➤ ***BUST***

*Written and Performed by Lauren Weedman*

*Directed by Allison Narver*

➤ ***No...You Shut Up!***

*Written and performed by Lauren Weedman*

*directed by Jeffrey Weatherford*

## Passage Theatre Production History

### **Trenton Lights (Mainstage Production)**

Conceived and Created by June Ballinger & David Lee White and members of the Trenton Community

Original Music by Vince di Mura

Directed by Adam Immerwahr

### **PlayLab- Fortune Smiles**

10 Minute Play Festival

#### **The Ask**

By David Lee White, Directed by Adam Immerwahr

#### **The Ride**

By James Christy, Jr., Directed by Dan Hodge

#### **Unicycle, Unicycle or This Happy Dream**

By Ian August, Directed by Damon Bonetti

#### **Three Cubes and Some Noodles**

By Hope Gatto, Directed by Damon Bonetti

#### **The Breakthrough**

By Paula T. Alekson, Directed by David Lee White



## Passage Theatre Production History

### **2010-2011**

#### **Love and Communication**

By James J Christy

Directed by Adam Immerwahr

#### **Santa Claus is Coming Out**

Written and performed by Jeffrey Solomon

Directed by Joe Brancato

#### **10<sup>th</sup> Annual Solo Flight Festival**

➤ **In the Style of Weill**

Written and performed by Mary Martello

➤ **Tales from the Bawdy House**

Written and performed by Terry Waldo

➤ **Draw The Circle**

Written and performed by Deen

Directed by Chay Yew

➤ **Wanderlust**

Written and performed by Martin Dockery

Directed by Jean-Michele Gregory

➤ **Black Comedy: The Wacky Side of (Post?) Racism**

Written and performed by Nancy Giles

➤ **No Parole**

Written and performed by Carlo D'Amore

Directed by Margaret Perry

➤ **Forgive to Forget**

Written and performed by chandra thomas

#### **NJTA Stages Festival- Slippery as Sin (workshop)**

#### **Samuel J and K**

by Mat Smart

Directed by Jade King Carroll

## Passage Theatre Production History

### **2011-2012**

#### ***De Novo: mas alla de las fronteras (Beyond Borders)***

written, curated and directed by Jeffrey Solomon

Co-presented with The Houses on the Moon Theatre Company

#### **The History of Light**

by Eisa Davis

Directed by Jade King Carroll

#### **11<sup>th</sup> Annual Solo Flights Festival**

➤ **Broke Wide Open**

Written and performed by Rock WILK

➤ **Comes Love**

By Demetria Joyce Bailey and Vince di Mura

➤ **Leah Stein Dance Company**

By Leah Stein and Toshi Makihara

➤ **Donna Orbits the Moon**

By Ian August

Directed by Marc Geller

➤ **Punchkapow**

By Team Sunshine Performance Corporation

➤ **Beyond Words**

written and performed by Bill Bowers

Directed by Scott Illingworth

NJTA The Stages Festival

#### **Cuentos del Arbol**

by Pushcart Players

#### **Slippery As Sin**

By David Lee White

Directed by Adam Immerwahr