

# ANNALISA DIAS

## SELECT PRODUCTION EXPERIENCE

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### *Playwriting*

2023. I BELIEVE IN THE NIGHT. Development: self-produced residency at Dance Exchange, December 2023.
2021. THE INVENTION OF SEEDS. Development: workshop in progress produced by Groundwater Arts with PG County Publick Playhouse April 2021; residency at The Kennedy Center REACH April 2022; residency at The Ringling May 2022. Reading at Mosaic Theater January 2023; workshop at UMBC March 2023; commissioning support from ArtsEmerson.
2021. THE CARLISLE PROJECT. (Contributed lyrics & book) Collaboration with Ronee Penoi (Laguna Pueblo/Cherokee). Development: commissioning support from the Pittsburgh Public Theatre and Baltimore Center Stage, additional support from The Sundance Institute Interdisciplinary program, Dartmouth College, Dickinson College, and the Network of Ensemble Theatres; concert reading at the Pittsburgh Public Theatre, May 2023.
2020. #RESIST: THE MUSICAL. (Lyrics & book) Development: cabaret reading at The Tank (Tank-aret series) in February 2020; residency at Ferguson Center for the Arts New Works Lab 2021.
2019. INDIA(N) WOMAN. Development: April 2019 maker residency at Keshet Dance and Center for the Arts; dramaturgical support provided through Arena Stage, Playwright's Arena Cohort 4 (2019).
2019. THE EARTH, THAT IS SUFFICIENT. Produced by The Welders in DC and globally throughout 2019.
2018. 4380 NIGHTS. World premiere produced at Signature Theatre in January 2018, part of the Women's Voices Theatre Festival and Heidi Thomas Writer's Initiative.
2016. A LEGACY OF CHAINS. *Ten minute play*. October 2016 commissioned staged reading at The Phillips Collection (DC).
2016. TO DEFEND FREEDOM. Development: October 2016 Hothouse New Play Development Series at Theater Alliance in Washington, DC; staged reading at Signature Theatre in June 2016.
2015. SERVANT OF THE WIND. Staged: February 2016 at Atlas Intersections Festival in Washington, DC.
2015. RETURN TO ALEPPO. *Ten-minute play*. Staged: December 2015 at (re)Acts at Forum Theatre in Silver Spring, MD.
2014. THE LAST ALLEGIANCE. Development: September 2016 staged reading at the Gulfshore Playhouse in Naples, FL; September 2014 reading at New Works Program at Spooky Action Theater in Washington, DC.
2014. PALINDROME. *Five-minute play*. Staged: February 2014 at 5x5 at Theater J in Washington, DC.
2013. TO DEFEND FREEDOM. *Ten-minute play*. Staged: September 2015 at Kennedy Center Page 2 Stage Festival; September 2014 at Progressive Playwright at the [Tron Theatre](#) in Glasgow, Scotland; June 2014 at the ObamAmerica Festival at [Theatre 503](#) in London; January 2014 at the Long Island City One Acts Festival at [The Secret Theatre](#) in New York City.

### *Screenwriting*

2022. AKHILANDESHVARI. Feature film. Development: Saul Zaentz Fund for Innovation in Film & Media at Johns Hopkins University, 2022 Cohort; Workshop reading produced by Groundwater Arts, 2022.

### *Writing for Short Theatrical Streaming*

2021. "The Great Divide." Commissioned ten minute play for theatre/film, produced by Towson University Drama Department.
2021. "After the flood." Commissioned monologue for LOVE/language film project, produced by REP Stage.
2020. "Together We Know a Lot." Commissioned script for short animated film about voter protection, produced by the Repertory Theatre of St. Louis.
2020. "Idania" in [MAY 22, 2020](#). Commissioned monologue based on interview as part film, produced by Arena Stage.

### *Devising*

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| 2018. HISTORY OF THE UNIVERSE IN 5 MINUTES | <i>Writer, Director</i>            | Black Cherry Puppet Slam                         |
| 2017. WHAT THE WAVES BRING                 | <i>Writer, puppeteer</i>           | Wit's End Puppets                                |
| 2016. ONE WORD MORE                        | <i>Writer, Performer, Producer</i> | Mead Theatre Lab Program                         |
| 2015. COAL                                 | <i>Devising Director</i>           | Synetic Dark Night Showcase                      |
| 2015. TYGER                                | <i>Performance Devisor</i>         | banished? productions                            |
| 2015. I LOVE DC                            | <i>Devising Director</i>           | Theater Alliance                                 |
| 2015. CROOKED FIGURE                       | <i>Co-Devisor, Writer</i>          | Mead Theatre Lab Program                         |
| 2014. ONE WORD MORE...                     | <i>Co-Devisor, Writer</i>          | Shakespeare Theater Co. ( <i>Special Event</i> ) |

### *Directing*

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| 2019. THE CARLISLE PROJECT (concert reading) by Ronee Penoi        | <i>Director</i> | Dartmouth College ( <i>Special Event</i> ) |
| 2018. MENSTRUATION: A PERIOD PIECE (reading) by Miranda Rose Hall  | <i>Director</i> | Woolly Mammoth Theatre Co.                 |
| 2014. ELEANOR GANTRY'S DAUGHTERS...(reading) by Stephen Spotswood  | <i>Director</i> | Pinky Swear Productions                    |
| 2014. DRESSING BOBBY STRONG by Stephen Spotswood                   | <i>Director</i> | Source Festival                            |
| 2014. DUST TO DUST TO DUST by Aaron Weissman                       | <i>Director</i> | Source Festival                            |
| 2013. THE SALIMA PROJECT (film and international theatre workshop) | <i>Director</i> | The Salima Project                         |

# ANNALISA DIAS

## SELECT PROFESSIONAL SERVICE TO COMMUNITY

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**Frequent invited speaker and guest teacher** on race, identity, activism, and new play development. Locations include Tisch NYU, UMBC, Bard College, UMass Amherst, Hollins University, Towson University, American University, Kennedy Center Directing & Dramaturgy Intensive, the Smithsonian American Art Museum, the International Rescue Committee, the Washington Peace Center, among others.

**Theatre of the Oppressed workshop facilitation** locations include: the International Rescue Committee, EMPATHeatre, Forum Theatre, Theater Alliance, The Washington Peace Center, the University of Maryland Hillel Center, One Common Unity.

## ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

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### **Cultural producer and educator**

Decade of experience in arts education & administration. Resume available upon request.

### **Select Recent Conference Sessions**

**"This is not a drill: climate just futures"** with Groundwater Arts and No Dream Deferred at the TCG National Conference 2022.

**"Divest to Invest"** with Groundwater Arts at the TCG National Conference 2021.

**"What are you harvesting?"** keynote speaker at the 2020 Arts Everyday Summer Arts Integration Conference.

**"Decolonizing New Play Development"** invited roundtable speaker at the 2020 Bay Area Playwrights Festival.

**"Toward Climate Justice,"** invited speaker with Groundwater Arts at the 2020 Lockdown Green Up Festival (UK).

**"Green New Theatre 2020: Y'all There's No Going Back,"** with Groundwater Arts at the TCG National Conference 2020.

### **Select Recent Publications**

**"What is Theatre Invested In? A Vision for a Regenerative Future,"** co-written with Ronee Penoi, Tara Moses, and Anna Lathrop. *American Theatre Magazine*. March 2021.

**"Catalyzing Climate Justice by Divesting from Fossil Fuels,"** co-written with Ronee Penoi. *HowlRound*. February 2021.

**"Decolonizing 'EDI': strategies for resisting white supremacy"** in *Diversity, Inclusion, and Representation in Contemporary Dramaturgy*. Published by Routledge: London, 2020.

**"To Witness: a proposal to build radical trust across difference,"** co-written with Ronee Penoi. *HowlRound*. November 2019.

**"Intro to Decolonizing Theatre,"** co-written with Madeline Sayet. *HowlRound*. May 2018.

### **Select Awards and Honors**

Saul Zaentz Fund for Innovation in Film & Media at Johns Hopkins University, Bold Voices, New Paradigms Cohort (2021)

Arena Stage, Playwrights Arena Cohort 4 (2019)

Emergent Strategy Ideation Institute DC Immersion Participant (2019)

Network of Ensemble Theatres NET/TEN Travel Grant for relationship building with Indigenous communities in NM (2018)

TCG Global Connections Grant for artist residency in Norway, 2018

DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities Artistic Fellowship 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019

TCG Rising Leaders of Color Cohort 2016

[Press links available on my personal website.](#)

### **Professional Affiliations**

**Dramatists Guild**, Member | **LMDA**, Member

**TCG**, Member (Programming Council 2017; Rising Leaders of Color Cohort 2016; Conference Committee on Climate Change 2019)

**Association for Theatre in Higher Education**, Member (Conference Planner for Theatre & Social Change Focus Group 2014–2015)

## EDUCATION

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**M.A. Theatre History and Criticism** | The Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C. | January 2015

Practical emphasis on theatre for social justice; research emphasis on representations and performance of American identity.

**B.A. English and Religion Dual Degree** | Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts | May 2010

**B2 DELF Attestation** (Council of Europe certification in French) | Université Stendhal, Grenoble, France | December 2008

### **Additional Theatrical Training**

Lecoq technique: Dody DiSanto; Contemporary movement: Kitt Johnson; Theatre of the Oppressed Joker technique: Katy Rubin; Synetic technique: Paata Tsikurishvili, Irina Tsikurishvili, Alex Mills; Kalaripayattu: Sankar Nair

## LANGUAGES

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Conversational French, reading Italian and Spanish.