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Le Mondo, *Executive Director, 2015-Present*

I am a co-founder and Executive Director of this artist-owned-and-driven project creating a multi-use community hub and experimental performance complex in Baltimore's Bromo Arts District. Comprised of three buildings on Baltimore's historic Howard Street corridor, the project will champion a diverse community of arts and community organizations, individual artists, curators, and arts-lovers in the city. Our first building, located at 404 N Howard St, is scheduled to open in March, 2017. www.lemondo.org

Psychic Readings Co, *Artistic Director, 1999-present.*

I am the founder, writer and director for the Psychic Readings theatre company. We have been performing our unique brand of interdisciplinary hysterics for more than ten years. We opened our first space, Psychic Readings, in Baltimore in 2015.

www.psychicreadings.church

EXPERIENCES IN ART

[select] Performance

The Failures, 2016/2017. Actor, director, co-writer with Peter Mills Weiss. Billed as "an in-depth look at what makes failures fail and how YOU can achieve success through their ineptitude and misery", *The Failures* is a campy horror/musical/comedy that irreverently comments on insidious everyday structures where the success of an individual relies on the failure or oppression of another. In the play, an audience member (played by Jon Swift) is tortured any time the performers do anything well. Eventually, he's tortured anyway.

The Fête of Mistakes, 2012/2014/2016. In *The Fête of Mistakes*, Psychic Readings Co constructs an abstract fairground littered with the overwhelmingness of despair and the sustained tension of hopefulness. Produced three different times; Ontological Hysterical Theatre (2012), Silent Barn (2014) and Le Mondo (2016)

Miss Chthonic Star Dream Pageant, 2015. Performed at Silent Barn in NY. It's a beauty pageant fashion show, a monstrous parade of internal realities fueled by sacrifice which thrusts labor, exploitation, and sexual/economic oppression onto the catwalk. Braiding pleasure and the abject and spiking it with a heavy dose of buffoonery, the dream pageant will entertain, amaze, and delightfully frustrate you!

Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley, 2010. Ensemble performance by Performance Thanatology at Annex Theatre Baltimore and Dixon Place, NY. Dark, imagistic, teeth, fear, satan, and everything else. Featuring Joe Meduza, Jackie Milad, Owen Brightman, and Bonnie Jones. Directed by Ric Royer. Sound by G Lucas Crane. Lights by David Crandall.

The 50 Greatest Ladies and Gentlemen, 2009. Premiered at Ontological-Hysterical Theatre July 19 - August 1. In this installment of Performance Thanatology's ongoing research in death and performance, a solitary figure performs all his old songs and dances despite the loss of his partner, the loss of his dancing shoes, and the loss of his teeth. Somewhere between *Krapp's Last Tape* and Artaud's *Spurt of Blood*, this is what really became of vaudeville.

[Do Franz West Poop](#), 2008. Composition by Ric Royer performed at the Baltimore Museum of Art. it included several pieces of chewing gum and a list of onomatopoeic words in reference to the works of Franz West. Performed by Ric Royer, Lauren Bender and Stephanie Barber.

[High Zero](#), 2008. Performed two pieces at this major east coast festival of experimental improvised music.

[Dark Cabinet of the Strange Weird](#), 2008. Ric Royer and G. Lucas Crane take the art of the scary story to new dimensions and extremes as they combine Royer's surreal tales of the darkly humorous macabre with Crane's intensely terrifying soundscapes. This special vinyl release comes in a box designed by Baltimore artist Erin Womack and includes scary secret inserts.

[There Were One and It Was Two](#), 2007. Book and CD published by *Narrow House Records*. Initially a solo performance piece, the cd/book was published Narrow House Records and features a soundtrack by John Berndt. The release event will feature a performance by the Bender Twins, sound by Berndt and my original performance about twins, decoys, shadows and other variations of The Double, providing companionship throughout life and chasing you until death.

[Hystery of Heat](#), 2007. Presented by the Performance Thanatology Research Society at the *Ontological-Hysteric Theatre*. Premier April 27, restaged August 16-19. Subsequently restaged at DC Arts Center in Washington and Baltimore Theatre Project in 2007.

[select] Organizing/Curating

[95 Empire at AS220](#), *Artistic Director and Manager, 2011-2014*.

My main responsibilities included programming, promotion, marketing, and organizing special events, but I also had a hand in every other aspect of running this unjuried and uncensored arts center comprised of a blackbox theatre, gallery and dance studio. I did fundraising, I managed a staff of four, and organized outreach efforts among many other duties. For more information about this space, www.as220.org

[Transmodern Festival](#), *core organizer, 2005-2009*.

I was a core organizer of Baltimore's biggest celebration of fringe performance. I was responsible for collaboratively programming the festival as well as assist with establishing non-profit status, PR, fundraising, and travel arrangements. The festival still continues to grow today, now in its 13th year.

[The LOFT](#). The LOFT is a performance venue in Baltimore. It's a place where the uncomfortable can feel comfortable, where experimentation is the norm, where thought-provoking work is a no-brainer. We are dedicated to presenting new works in theatre, performance art, poetry, music and other harder-to-define forms of performance..

[Collaborate Now!](#) Exhibit of interdisciplinary works by 14 Baltimore-based artists as part of Transmodern Festival 2007. Co-curated with Jackie Milad at the Rosenberg Gallery at Goucher College.

[These Are Your Instructions](#). Instruction Art event and installation featuring instruction-based work from thirty artists. Curated by Ric Royer at *Centerstage*, Baltimore MD, December 16-21.

[Anti-Matter; Performances, Events, and Transactions](#). Curator, Hyper-environmental multi-media art show, CHELA artspace, Baltimore.

[select] Exhibition

[PINWHEELS! The Fantastic Art Load of Devon Fick!](#) Solo show curated by Ric Royer at the Load of Fun Gallery.

[Typical/Atypical](#), 2007. Text and image collaboration with visual artist Liam Yeates at the Ontological Museum, New Mexico.

[Nostalgia for Almost](#), 2006. Performed/installed "Building the Jolly Roger without instructions". I spent several hours in the space attempting to build a giant plastic model of a pirate ship without the help of instructions.

[Exchange](#), 2006. Baltimore artists in D.C., D.C. artists in Baltimore. *Warehouse Arts Complex*.

[Sound Vision/Vision Sound 3](#), 2005. Text Objects on display at *Nave Gallery*, Somerville Maine, July 7 – August 6. Curated by William Howe and Christopher Fritton.

[Immediated: Object](#), 2004. Text and Illustrations entitled *Every day I am a new place to live* exhibited at the King Ludd Bookshop gallery, Exeter, Devon, UK. Piece designed in collaboration with Liam Yeates.

[ReadyMade](#), 2003. Found photocopies from Kinko's garbage as part of *ReadyMade* mock art auction curated by Christine Bailey. *CHELA artspace*, Baltimore.

[Pen Palism](#), 2003. Two text-based visual pieces in group postal art show, *107 Neville* gallery, Maine.
[Fluxus/Realizations](#), 2002. *Avant-Garde Coffee Cups* and BUFFFLUXUS recordings exhibited as part of Fluxus group show. Included works by Dick Higgins, John Cage, Yoko Ono, curated by Don Metz, *Burchfield-Penny Art Center*, Buffalo.
[Eight \(8\)](#), 2002. Text-art and performance installation with Bonnie Jones, group showing of members of CHELA collective. CHELA Artspace, Baltimore.

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Education

- Kicked out of the Performance Studies PhD program at Brown University with Honors (2013).
- M.F.A. Towson University, Theatre Arts. (2006)
- M.A. Equivalent, Dartington College of Art (2005)
- B.A. University at Buffalo, Theatre major, English minor (2001)

Teaching

Adjunct Professor; Film, Video, and Theatre Department, Villa Julie College. 2007- 2010.

Guest Lecturer/Workshop Leader

MICA, guest artist Q and A, Visual Thinking UG course, 2010
University Maryland Baltimore County, *What is Weird?*, Undergraduate art lecture, 2006, 2007, 2008.
Towson University, Guest lecturer, Theatre MFA course, 2007.
Miami University at Ohio, *Poetry as Performance*, Undergraduate course, 2006
Ontological-Hysteric Theatre, *Hyper-Playwriting workshop*, 2006
University Maryland Baltimore County, Instruction Art lecture, Undergraduate art course, 2005
Temple University, Creative Writing: Poetry. Undergraduate course, 2003

Thesis

"The Art of Instruction; The Open Score and Other Writings on Instruction Art." Towson University/
Dartington College of Art, 2005.

Conference Presentations

Artist talk and performance of Ghosts/Bodies at Post-Moot Conference, University of Miami, Ohio, 2010.
"There Were One and It Was Two; Annotated Artifacts from The Doubles Museum" Performance lecture delivered at the &Now Festival, Chapman University, CA, 2008.
"Pop Experimentalist" paper delivered on poetry panel at Popular Culture Conference, San Antonio TX, 2004

Awards and Residencies

2016 Individual Artist Award, Baltimore Promotion of the Arts.
2015 Best Play (*Garbage Death and the City of Baltimore*), City Paper "Best of Baltimore"
2014 Rhode Island State Council for the Arts Project Grant for Psychic Readings Co.
2010 Creative Arts Council Award from Brown University for *The Coincidental Hour* (performance series)
2009 Best new Theatre for *The LOFT*, Baltimore City Paper.
2009 Ontological-Hysteric Theatre, Summer Residency.
2009 Individual Artist Award, Baltimore Promotion of the Arts.
2008 Ko Festival residency, Amherst College.
2007 Best of Baltimore Award for *There Were One and It Were Two*.
2006 Individual Artist Award, Baltimore Promotion of the Arts.
2004 Graduate Fellowship, Towson University.
2004 Graduate Student Association Grant, Towson University.
2004 Study Abroad Grant, Towson University.
2003 Graduate Student Association Grant, Towson University.
2001 Silverman Poetry Award, University at Buffalo.