

Matthew Cahill

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Profile

As a performing artist, artistic director, administrator, and teacher working in the mediums of film, television, physical theater, Alexander Technique, musical theater, and opera, I believe that truthful and dynamic storytelling is essential and possible in any medium. As *Le Monde* in Paris declared, "*you really want to hear [him] in either an opera or a musical. He has a big presence, a warm baritone voice, immense humanity, and the gift of an actor.*" Drawing on my experience in many different facets of performance, I have had the privilege of developing and implementing curriculum to train the complete singer-actor at several different institutions.

Objectives

Truthful and dynamic storytelling is essential for the twenty first century performing artist, and as I strongly believe, achievable in any storytelling medium. My work as a performer informs my teaching, and my work as a teacher informs my performing. From my own diverse experience as a lyric and non-lyric performer, I prepare performing artists to move seamlessly from the mediums of theatre to television to opera to musical theatre to physical theatre while maintaining a core foundation of truthful, dynamic, and personal story-telling. By combining work on students' strengths and primary genre with complimentary work on skills that are less familiar and emphasized in another genre, extraordinary progress and versatility can be achieved.

My goal as a teacher is twofold: first to re-ignite the self-agency of each student and love of performance that brought them to this career in the first place. It is the foundation for any creative work. I create a safe space, encourage students to find an instinct, and ask them to follow it through completely. Only then do we have a starting point for all future work. Then my second goal: to teach young artists to be their own teachers. I encourage students to identify their own artistic desires and become aware of their own process. Then I help them discover the tools necessary to continue working on that process by themselves. When we have finished our work, students should know their strengths and weaknesses (or as I call them "areas for growth"), as well as how to emphasize their strengths and how to develop their areas for growth. Hopefully they will then combine their child-like original love for performance with an adult-like ownership of their craft and process, which will serve them in the professional world for decades to come.

Experience

LEAD ARTIST FACULTY, JUILLIARD SUMMER HIGH SCHOOL VOICE PROGRAM, JUILLIARD GLOBAL K-12, NEW YORK NY 2017-PRESENT

- In coordination with Juilliard administration, developing a new program from the ground up for 50+ high school voice students at the Windermere Preparatory School in Orlando, Florida
- Recruiting students and faculty
- Curriculum and Schedule Creation
- Teaching
 - a Class in Singing-Acting for the classical voice majors
 - Group Alexander Technique for classical & musical theater singers
 - Private voice for classical & musical theater singers
 - lectures on the music business, how to prepare for college, how to practice, how to learn a song, and more
- Developing and directing the final performance for the classical voice majors

FOUNDER & TEACHER, ATSINGING, NEW YORK NY 2018-PRESENT

- Teaching Alexander Technique and its direct application to singing for singers of all styles in group and private lessons
- Organizing national workshops (Cincinnati, New York, Atlanta, Portland)
- Organizational Development, Fundraising, & Major Gift Development
- Scheduling, Curriculum Development

- Website Creation & Branding
- Social Media (including daily Alexander Technique & Singing Tips)
- Faculty & Student Recruitment

PRIVATE VOICE TEACHER, ALEXANDER TEACHER, & ACTING COACH, NEW YORK NY 2012-PRESENT

An active studio teaching vocal technique, Alexander Technique, singing-acting, audition techniques, and the connections between them to students ages 16-adult.

INTERIM VOICE FACULTY, MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY, MONTCLAIR NJ 2019-2020

- Teaching private voice in classical and musical theater styles
- Teaching acting for singers
- Teaching vocal chamber music

ASSOCIATE ADJUNCT PROFESSOR, BROOKLYN COLLEGE, BROOKLYN NY 2017-18

- Selecting, building the production team, scheduling, teaching, and directing the conservatory's opera workshop with one-fully produced opera or musical per semester
- Directing Scenes Programs
- Developing a curriculum in performance and singing-acting for undergraduate, graduate, and post-graduate students
- Developing and teaching a course in singing-acting
- Teaching private voice
- Faculty recruitment
- Inviting guest faculty for master classes (Sanford Sylvan, Angela Meade, Gerald Martin Moore, Lucy Dhegrae, etc.)

INSTRUCTOR, PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP, BARD GRADUATE VOCAL ARTS PROGRAM, NEW YORK NY 2018-2019

 Co-teaching a class with Melissa Wegner of the Metropolitan National Council Auditions for the Bard GVAP PDW class on the 'inner artist' (integrity, self-protection, trust, criticism) and the 'outer artist' (refining one's artist biography, designing a website, creating recordings).

• Inviting weekly guests from the profession to speak with students, and mediating their exchanges.

ASSOCIATE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR, SONGFEST, LOS ANGELES CA - 2013-2017

- Scheduling
- Organizational Development, Fundraising, & Major Gift Development
- Grant-writing
- Concert planning/directing
 - devised, curated, directed, and choreographed a touring show of "Songs in the Key of LA" with multiple singers across multiple high profile LA venues including the Huntington Library and the Hammer museum with LA Opera all based on the work of MacArthur Genius Grant Award Winner Josh Kuhn recovering pop music from the turn of the century about Southern California
 - developed, curated, and cast a concert of Hughes and Whitman songs for the Hampson Foundation
 - program, coach, choreograph, and direct several "Honest American" concerts for Young Artists emphasizing truthful storytelling through singing acting
 - developing an alumni association with useful materials
 - alumni contact database, list of accomplishments, recital/ rehearsal/practice venues
 - alumni recital calendar
 - alumni newsletter
 - website creation development
 - social media (Facebook, Twitter, Soundcloud, Youtube)

- Email marketing/constant contact campaigns
- summer festival concert and institute program/curriculum development and implementation
- teaching a performance practicum course
- private coachings and voice lessons
- liaison between the students and administration as well as the faculty and administration
- writing copy for official letters and other company materials

DIRECTOR OF THE YOUNG ARTIST PROGRAM, SONGFEST, LOS ANGELES CA - 2012-2017

Designed a curriculum for singers who have a solid technical basis which allows them to focus on interpretation and singing-acting, using techniques gathered from my own work at Juilliard & Bard Conservatory, as well as professionally with Peter Brook, Lecog Methods, the Meisner Technique, Diane Paulus, Peter Sellars, Eve Shapiro, Dawn Upshaw, with reference to the work of Wesley Balk. Participants are generally juniors and seniors in college and graduate students from top regional music programs and conservatories including Juilliard, Curtis, Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music, USC, Northwestern, Mannes, MSM, and more. Recent alumni include Emily D'Angelo, mezzo with the Canadian Opera Company winner of the 2016 Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions & Madison Leonard, Merola graduate and winner of Houston Grand Opera's Eleanor McCollum Competition.) Singers receive one lesson/week, Alexander Technique, private coachings, a seminar on "Producing your own recital", small group afternoon master classes with senior faculty, and at least two performance opportunities. Singers also participate "Discovery" class three times per week for two hours, a class I created to explore techniques for complete dynamic performances & self proficiency for the singing-actor. The first hour of the class focuses on exploratory exercises to develop the singers' "tool box" of expression: musically, theatrically, and physically. The second hour of class is dedicated to putting those new skills into practical application with songs in the singers'

native language. At the end of the month, our work is shared with the community through final concerts entitled "Honest American" recitals: emphasizing truth in musical story-telling in the performer's native language.

ACTING COACH/VOICE TEACHER, SONGFEST, LOS ANGELES, CA - 2012

I taught acting as well as individual voice lessons to students from ages 16-26 from schools such as Eastman, Juilliard, and the New England Conservatory.

VOICE TEACHER, 3RD STREET MUSIC SCHOOL, NEW YORK NY 2012-2014 Teaching vocal technique to students from ages 6-adult.

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER AND PERFORMER, YOU ARE NOT ALONE, NEW YORK, NY - 2011-2012

I produce and perform in a concert series entitled *You Are Not Alone* to benefit The Trevor Project, the national suicide-prevention hotline for LGBTQ youth. Our concerts have raised over \$16,000 for the Trevor Project to date, bringing the message of hope, love, and self-acceptance to hundreds of children across New York State. Betty Buckley, Lea DeLaria, Aaron Lazar, Jeanine Tesori, and Ricky Ian Gordon are just a few of the Broadway stars that have performed on the series to packed crowds of school children and children from New York City's youth shelters attending free of charge.

MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHER, GILMAN SCHOOL, BALTIMORE, MD - 2008-2009

I was in charge of all musical activities for Gilman's Middle School, including teaching general music to grades 6-8, conducting the "Littlemen" choir of 6th graders and the "Middlemen" choir of 7th and 8th graders, music directing the musical *Annie*, and teaching individual voice lessons to grades 6-12. In addition, I taught a character development course named "Talk", assistant taught a course on developing study skills, and proctored study halls.

Education

Balance Arts Center Alexander Teacher Training 2016-2020, AmSAT Certification in the Alexander Technique **Bard College Conservatory**, Annandale-on-Hudson NY - M.M. Vocal Arts, 2012

The Juilliard School, New York NY - B.M. Voice, 2007 Presidential Distinction

The Gilman School, Baltimore MD - High School Diploma, 2003 School Government President, Summa Cum Laude

Columbia University, New York NY - Courses in History, Philosophy, Language, and Literature 2004-2007

The Alliance Française, New York NY - French Language and Literature 2007-2012

Skills

baritone, actor, classical ballet & jazz dance, piano, Alexander Technique Teacher, some clarinet and guitar, fluent French, conversational Spanish, Italian, and German.

References

Available upon request