

Sally Seitz
writer, director, storyteller
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Education

Carnegie Mellon University, School of Drama, Pittsburgh, PA **MFA, May 2024**
• Masters of Fine Arts in Dramatic Writing (screenwriting & playwriting)

Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT *magna cum laude (both disciplines), BA, May 2017*
• Bachelor of the Arts in Theatre and English & American Literatures, formal focus in Creative Writing
• Thesis project; a play: “*Blue Fog Risin’*,” Intermediate independent project; directing: “*Waiting for Godot*”
• Relevant courses included: Beginning and Advanced Playwriting, Beginning and Advanced Writing for the Screen, Script Development, Beginning and Advanced Directing, Collaborative Video Projects, Theatre History, The Creative Process, 20/21st Century Performance Aesthetics, Contemporary Women Playwrights, Shakespeare’s Histories, Shaw and Stoppard: The Play of Ideas, Speechmaker’s Studio, Beginning Acting, Beginning Lighting Design

Writing Workshops

- Dreaming a Play: Fast First Draft, instructor Caridad Svich, presented by ScriptWorks
- Creativity Lab: A six-week exploration of the creative process, common obstacles, and tools for sustaining creative momentum, instructor Erin Hallagan, presented by Inward & Artward
- Story Lab: A six-week intensive on identifying, crafting, and sharing personal narratives, instructor Erin Hallagan, presented by Inward & Artward
- The Living Play: A master class in the craft of story-making for the stage, instructor Steven Dietz, presented by ScriptWorks

Past Artistic Projects

SCREENWRITER

<i>Too Many Fish in the Sea</i> , Feature, Rom Com Written as part of the 2023 A.P Sloan Script Competition at Carnegie Mellon University	1st place winner (\$25,000 grand prize) of the 2023 A.P Sloan Script Competition at CMU	Research and Science Consultant: Dr. Alli Candelmo of REEF/CCMI	2023
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PLAYWRIGHT

<i>The Monument Maker</i> Presented as part of the Monologue Slam 7th Annual Women in Theatre (WIT) Festival	7th Annual Women in Theatre (WIT) Festival, Project Y Theatre (NYC)	Dir. Michole Biancosino	2022
<i>Keep Me Company</i>	Salon Reading presented by ScriptWorks Austin	Dir. Christi Moore	2022
<i>PLEASE DO NOT TOUCH THE ART</i> , ScriptWorks official commission; Best of the Fest and Best of the Week showcases	FronteraFest Short Fringe Festival, Hyde Park Theatre	Dir. Sally Seitz	2020

<i>DON'T SEND FLOWERS</i>	New Manifest Theatre Company's Manifest Minifest	Dir. Simone Alexander and Dir. Elisa Regulski	2019
<i>DON'T SEND FLOWERS</i> , competition winner and finalist	Magnolia Arts Center New Play Festival	Dir. Stephen Harding	2019
<i>LUCY'S PLAY</i>	Ensworth High School	Dir. David Berry	2019
<i>SOLDIER OF THE CROSS</i> , Best of the Fest and Best of the Week showcases	FronteraFest Short Fringe Festival, Hyde Park Theatre	Dir. Sally Seitz	2019
<i>SOLDIER OF THE CROSS</i>	Paradox Players	Dir. Sally Seitz	2019
<i>A FOOL AND HIS MONEY</i>	Paradox Players	Dir. Sally Seitz	2019
<i>A FOOL AND HIS MONEY</i>	FronteraFest Short Fringe Festival, Hyde Park Theatre	Dir. Sally Seitz	2018
<i>BLUE FOG RISIN'</i>	Middlebury College (staged reading)	Dir. Sally Seitz	2016
<i>VERA</i> (screenplay)	Middlebury College (workshop reading)	Dir. Sally Seitz	2016
<i>AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD</i>	Middlebury College (workshop reading)	Dir. Sally Seitz	2015

DIRECTOR / ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

<i>Bub-ble-Gum, Bub-ble-Gum</i>	Carnegie Mellon University's School of Drama's Playground XX, an annual Festival of all student work	Dir. Sally Seitz	2022
<i>THE DOG PLAY</i>	FronteraFest Long Fringe Festival, Ground Floor Theatre	Dir. Christina J. Moore	2019
<i>THE 5TH ANNUAL ONE MINUTE PLAY FESTIVAL</i>	Ground Floor Theatre, ScriptWorks	Dir. Christina J. Moore	2018
<i>WAITING FOR GODOT</i>	Middlebury College	Dir. Sally Seitz	2017
<i>ON AN AVERAGE DAY</i>	Middlebury College	Dir. Sally Seitz	2016
<i>JUDITH: A PARTING FROM THE BODY/ VINEGAR TOM</i>	PTP/NYC Season, Atlantic Stage Two	Dir. Richard Romagnoli and Dir. Cheryl Faraone	2015
<i>VENUS IN FUR</i>	Middlebury College	Dir. Joelle Mendoza	2015

STAGE MANAGER

100 PLANES, Los Angeles, CA premiere	The Filigree Theatre	Dir. Elizabeth V. Newman	2019
100 PLANES, Austin, TX premiere	The Filigree Theatre	Dir. Elizabeth V. Newman	2019
VAMPIRE	Middlebury College	Dir. Cheryl Faraone	2014
VINEGAR TOM	Middlebury College	Dir. Cheryl Faraone	2013
THE HANGMAN	Middlebury College	Dir. Jacob Schwartzwald	2013

Experience

Instructor, Carnegie Mellon University, School of Drama/Fine Arts, Pittsburgh, PA Fall 2023

- Instructor for cross-listed Film and Drama undergraduate course: *Harvesting Personal Narratives: A Dramatic Writing Workshop*

Voice Over Script Writer, Austin Film Festival's *On Story Project*, Austin, TX December 2022 - Present

- Responsible for writing all voice over (VO) scripts to be recorded for Austin Film Festival's *On Story* project - a free, publicly accessible TV show, Radio show, and Podcast curated from Festival panel content.

Grants and Copywriter, Austin Film Festival, Austin, TX May 2020 - August 2023

- Responsible for all narrative copy needed for grant applications and subsequent reports for Austin Film Festival, the *On Story Project*, and the *On Story Archive* housed at Texas State University
- Secure funds from a variety of grant-making organizations including government agencies (city, state, and national) as well as private foundations. Recent grant awards include multiple awards from The National Endowment for the Arts, Texas Commission on the Arts, Texas Women for the Arts Education funds, The City of Austin's American Rescue Plan Act Funds, The Alice Kleberg Reynolds Foundation, Seawell Elam Foundation, and Webber Family Foundation
- Research new grant and fundraising opportunities that align with AFF's mission to further the art and craft of storytelling by inspiring and championing the work of writers and filmmakers
- Provide copy for a variety of organizational needs including video and radio scripts, donor letters, newsletter and marketing copy, and website updates

Moderator, Austin Film Festival, Austin, TX October 2021

- Hosted post-film Q&As with invited writers, directors, producers and talent regarding their creative process for programmed films during the 28th Annual Austin Film Festival
- Moderated Q&A with Tony-Award-winning playwright Stephen Karam on his cinematic adaptation of A24's *The Humans*, AFF's Centerpiece film presented at The Paramount Theatre

Script Competitions Reader, Austin Film Festival, Austin, TX August 2017 - September 2021

- Read and provided notes on script competition submissions in the following categories: stage plays, screenplays, comedy pilots, drama pilots, and narrative podcasts
- Evaluated core story elements such as concept, plot, characters, structure, and dialogue

Teaching Artist, Ensworth High School, Nashville, TN March 2021 - May 2021

- Advised high school senior on her independent capstone study in playwriting which culminated in a staged production of her new, full-length play

- Provided feedback on preliminary play drafts as well as supported the play’s rehearsal process and technical needs in an Assistant Director position

Young Filmmakers Program Director, Austin Film Festival, Austin, TX February 2020 – March 2021

- Taught AFF’s ‘Digital Storytelling’ screenwriting curriculum within nine classrooms across three Austin Independent School District Middle and High Schools
- Guided students through the process of writing original short screenplays, provided or facilitated individualized script feedback, and oversaw in-school production of select student short films
- Managed all aspects of AFF’s 2020 Virtual Summer Film Camp including hiring, marketing, and the translation of camp curriculums on the arts of screenwriting, smartphone filmmaking, editing, and writing for video games to be taught to students ages 9 to 18 via Zoom
- Oversaw AFF’s Festival and Conference Scholarship program which awarded over 250 scholarships to Central Texas high school students and educators to attend the 2020 Virtual Austin Film Festival and Writers Conference
- Assisted the Creative Director with the curation and execution of virtual student programming as part of the 2020 Virtual Austin Film Festival
- Organized the 2020 Young Filmmaker Competition, overseeing aspects such as marketing and school outreach, oversaw communication with screeners and judges, and programmed the competition’s top talent for the Young Filmmakers Short Film Showcase presented as part of the 2020 Virtual Festival
- See *English in Texas* published article “Austin Film Festival’s Digital Storytelling Curriculum: A Deep Dive into Story as a Critical Means of Communication and Creative Expression” (p. 25) - https://configio.blob.core.windows.net/media/em_TCTELA/Attachments/Journal/EIT-SPRING-SUMMER-2022_WEB.pdf, co-authored by Kelsey Walker and Sally Seitz

Screenplay Dept. Asst. and Script Reading Coord., Austin Film Festival, Austin TX August 2017 – February 2020

- Assisted the Festival’s Screenplay Department with administrative needs that pertain to its script competitions which annually receive over 12,000 submissions each year
- Coordinated and cast twelve live readings (per festival) selected from script competition entries

Teaching Artist, Variety Arts Texas, Austin, TX June 2019 – February 2020

- Provided after-school and summer extracurricular instruction on the arts of Theatre, Creative Writing, and Improvisation to elementary and early middle school students at Harris Elementary and East Austin College Prep
- Created weekly curriculums which emphasized social-emotional learning through storytelling
- Co-directed culminating student performances at each campus

Playwright and Teaching Artist, Ensworth High School, Nashville, TN February 2019 – May 2019

- Wrote and workshopped a new draft of *Lucy’s Play*, a full-length play that culminated in a staged production with current students in the school’s Theatre program
- Encouraged students to give feedback as they experienced the unique process of developing and rehearsing a live text
- Mentored students on independent playwriting, creative writing, and performance endeavors

Executive Asst. and Office Manager, ATX Television Festival, Austin, TX January 2018 – January 2019

- Performed Executive Assistant duties for the Co-founders and Co-Executive Directors such as booking frequent travel to LA and NYC, scheduling meetings with partner networks and studios, and managed the Executive team’s calendars

- One of a five-member team responsible for the planning and execution of the annual ATX Television Festival as well as year-round events
- Executed a variety of office needs such as reception, routine office maintenance, and intern supervision

Teacher and Head Mentor, Young Storytellers, Austin, TX March 2018 - November 2018

- Led two, nine-week script-to-stage mentorship and writing programs to select 5th grade students at Dawson Elementary
- Taught fundamental story elements as well as basic screenplay structure to guide and encourage students as they imagined and developed their own short scripts
- Built an inclusive and creative classroom space through the notion of play
- Cast and coordinated the Young Storyteller's "Big Show" in which local actors performed the students' work during an all-school assembly

Asst. to the Producer, Project Y Theatre's Women in Theatre (WIT) Festival, NYC, NY June 2017 - July 2017

- Assisted Producer and Artistic Director Michole Biancosino during the Women in Theatre (WIT) Summer 2017 Festival which included over thirty unique shows and staged readings showcasing premiere female-identifying creatives and talent
- Specific responsibilities included: Front of house, technical support, stage management, box office, social media and marketing

Asst. to the Dept. Coord, Middlebury College Theatre Department, Middlebury VT January 2015 - May 2017

- Assisted the Theatre Department Coordinator with administrative tasks such as updating the department website, proctoring auditions, converting and archiving digital files, and coordinating performance and rehearsal schedules

Honors and Awards

First Place Winner (\$25,000 award) of the Alfred P. Sloan Screenwriting Competition at Carnegie Mellon University	2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Original Feature Screenplay selected, <i>Too Many Fish in the Sea</i> 	
ScriptWorks and Hyde Park Theatre's FronteraFest Short Fringe Best of Fest and Best of Week Showcases	2020
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Original short play selected, <i>Please Do Not Touch the Art</i> (Playwright & Director) 	
ScriptWorks FronteraFest Short Fringe Festival Official Commision	2020
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Original short play selected, <i>Please Do Not Touch the Art</i> (Playwright) 	
ScriptWorks and Hyde Park Theatre's FronteraFest Short Fringe Best of Fest and Best of Week Showcases	2019
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Original short play selected, <i>Soldier of the Cross</i> (Playwright & Director) 	
The Magnolia Arts Center Ten Minute Play Festival Competition Finalist and Audience-selected Winner	2019
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Original ten-minute play selected, <i>Don't Send Flowers</i> (Playwright) 	
Middlebury College Department of Theatre's Marie Lafferty Cortell Senior Prize in Theatre	2017
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awarded to the graduating Theatre major who exhibited the greatest degree of creativity, scholarship, and service in diverse aspects of the Theatre program 	
Middlebury College Departmental Honors, English & American Literatures, Theatre and Dance	2017
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awarded to students with departmental GPAs of 3.8 or higher, completed departmental Senior Thesis work, as well as overall distinction in the department 	
Middlebury College <i>magna cum laude</i> , English & American Literatures, Theatre and Dance	2017
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awarded to students with a graduation average of 3.60 or higher 	

