# **Charles Goforth**

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Seven years' experience as an acting and directing teacher at the university level.

Six years running a private acting studio in New York City, sustained entirely by word of mouth.

Over twenty years as a director Off-Broadway and dramaturg for new plays.

Teacher-director specializing in rehearsal and production as a platform for actor training.

Drama League Fellow, member of LAByrinth Theater Company, Actors' Equity, SAG-AFTRA, and SDC.

# **University and Conservatory Teaching**

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University of Cincinnati, College Conservatory Adjunct Professor Fall 2024 - Present Cincinnati, OH	Voice Production IV	Selected pieces were used to teach methods of deeper preparation, standards of personal connection, and rehearsal techniques to generate spontaneity and instinctive behavior.
	Production	Director for <i>John Proctor is the Villain</i> , by Kimberly Bellflower. Recruited and mentored a co-director.
	Acting in Opera	The fundamentals for graduate opera students. Script analysis, improvisation, scenes and arias.
	Acting for non-majors	Acting 101 for BA students across the university.
	Special Topics	Master classes for all BFA students. Topics include cold reading, auditioning with a reader and deepening preparation.
	Acting IV	Meisner; improvisation, rehearsal techniques, scene study.
	Movement I	Viewpoints, Spolin, and Williamson.
	Script Analysis I	Contemporary and Classical plays.
American Musical and Dramatic Academy (AMDA) Adjunct Professor Fall 2018 - Spring 2019 New York City	Acting I	First-year musical theater students. Exercises and scene study.
Shenandoah Conservatory Adjunct Professor Fall 2014 - Fall 2016 Winchester, VA	Meisner I	Second-year students. The full, year-one sequence.
	Applied Acting	A weekly, one-on-one coaching session with each second- and third-year student. Bridged training to productions and auditions, and supported classwork.
	Production	Mentor-director. <i>The Great Eight</i> . Eight sophomores devised a multi-media comedy that dropped characters from Greek mythology onto campus to face the first year in college.

University and Conservatory Teaching (continued)			
New York University Tisch School of the Arts In-house Meisner Studio Adjunct Professor Fall 2012 - Spring 2013 New York City	Meisner I Coaching	First-year students. The full, year-one sequence.  First- and second-year students were assigned regular coaching in all elements of the two-year Meisner sequence.	
Cornell University Resident Teacher Fall 2006 - Spring 2007 Ithaca, NY	Production Coaching  Acting 101  Acting 412	Resident Professional Teaching Artist. Mentored students in production and performed three roles on the main stage.  Uta Hagen, Meisner, Hagen, Spolin, and scene study.  The business of acting for fourth-year majors.	
Mason Gross School of the Arts Rutgers University Dramaturg-director Fall 2005 - Spring 2006 New Brunswick, NJ	Graduate projects	MFA playwrights. Helped to develop their plays and directed staged readings.	
Wood Tobe-Coburn Instructor Fall 2003 - Spring 2004 New York City	Drama as literature	Required course for Designers at this trade school in Manhattan. Students represented a vast range of ages, education levels and nationalities. Syllabus included Shakespeare, Nottage, Miller, Hansberry and Wilder.	
Columbia & NYU Guest Teaching Artist Fall 1999 - Spring 2001 New York City	Acting, Scene study, Devising New Work Improvisation	For MFA students. These two universities contracted with LAByrinth Theater Company to offer six-week, elective workshops throughout the year. With other members of LAByrinth.	
Private Studio Teaching			
Labyrinth Theater Company Master Class Instructor 2005, 2007-2011 New York City	Scene Study I & II	Co-taught with Philip Seymour Hoffman, and used scenes written by LAByrinth writers. Every few months, often in multiple sections due to demand. (3 weeks)	
	Directing	Fundamentals, script analysis and actor-director relationship. Culminated in an evening of scenes for the public. (8 weeks)	
	Ensemble	Co-taught with members. Improvisation and devising work.	
Maggie Flanigan Studio Faculty 2011-2013 New York City	Individual Coaching	Exercises, television scenes, auditions in-person and taped.  Two-year Meisner sequence. Students were assigned private coaching in areas of difficulty or to make up classes.  Three hour workshops included Meisner elements, plus	
	Group Workshops	Three-hour workshops included Meisner elements, plus monologues, physical impediments, and heightened text.	

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## **Private Studio Teaching (continued)**

#### **Private Studio**

Owner and teacher 2008-2014 New York City Designed and taught acting and directing courses to groups of six to twelve students. Full-time for six years (part-time 2012-13 while at NYU). The five courses below ran consistently, with other workshops offered intermittently.

New Works Studio Nine acting students are interviewed by three playwrights

who then write roles for them in short plays. As the writers write, actors train with techniques that rehearsals will emphasize. After the plays arrive, directing students join and the second part of training is the rehearsals and performance. The plays opened for a short run in Manhattan. (9 weeks)

Crafting the Truth Scene study. Based on teaching, acting and directing with

Philip Seymour Hoffman, and directing and teaching for LAByrinth. Culminated in an evening of scenes. (8 weeks)

Meisner Technique The full, two-year sequence for eight to ten actors.

Audition Gym A gauntlet of mock auditions for theatre and TV. (4 weeks)

Shakespeare Inspired by work with Barry Edelstein and Ian Hersey,

at The Public Theater. (6 weeks)

Private Coaching 2008-Present

2008-Present NYC and LA For theatre, film, and TV. Auditions, booked roles, and rehearsal support and on set. In-person or remote.

## **Director-producer**

## Labyrinth Theater Company

Member 1995 to present New York City Directing for the company includes more than eighty staged readings of new work, over a dozen workshops, the following five premieres six premieres:

- Race, Religion, Politics by Stephen Adly Guirgis, with Philip Seymour Hoffman
- *Dutch Heart of Man* inaugural production as resident company at The Public Theater (by Robert Glaudini)
- Moonlight Mile with Liza Colón-Zayas HERE Arts Center (Guirgis)
- Scotch & Water by Brett C. Leonard
- Boom-Boom with Yul Vázquez inaugural production at CenterStageNY
- Francisco & Benny with David Zayas One Dream Theater, Tribeca (Guirgis)

Jesus Hopped the A Train – At the request of Stephen Adly Guirgis and Philip Seymour Hoffman, directed a new co-lead into the production alongside Ron Cephas Jones and brought it to the Edinburgh Festival, where it received a Fringe First Award. It was later picked up by London's Donmar Warehouse.

### The Lovely Dark

Director-producer New Plays Podcast 2022-Present New York City To date, collaborated with nine writers to develop thirteen short radio plays. Thirty-eight actors, including Oscar and Emmy winners, have been hired, as well as a full post-production team. All plays are recorded live in Hell's Kitchen. The podcast is hosted by *Rusty Quill* network in the United Kingdom.

Blackstone Media chose the first season of the podcast for audiobook publication, now available on Audible as *The Lovely Dark, Season One*.

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## Director-producer (cont'd)

**Grace** (short)

Producer-director 2024/25

New York City

Raised \$33k for production. Now in post. Raised additional \$16k for screenwriter to

begin working on the feature. To be released by December 2025.

**Artists' Fellowship** 

Creator and co-producer 2017 to 2019 New York City A fellowship for early career visual artists. Fellows were paired with an industry professionals and given a stipend. Culminated in a gallery opening on the Lower East Side and a booth at the *Superfine* art fair in SoHo where fellows were coached on how to sell their work.

**Off- and Off-Off B'way** (not including LAByrinth) \* = development and a New York premiere

The Flame Keeper\* Amos Kamil The 47th Street Theater

Roger & Vanessa\* Brett C. Leonard Center Stage

Fur\* Charlotte Miller The Access Theater
Scotch & Water\* Brett C. Leonard The Parkside Lounge
How the Other Half Loves Alan Ayckbourn Inner Space Theater

Selected regional

The Flame Keeper\* Amos Kamil Luna Stage, Montclair, NJ
Two Gentlemen of Verona Shakespeare Center Theater, Chicago

Swimming Naked\* Fia Perera Franklin Street Theater, West Hollywood Love and the Piano Feydeau Vermont Stage Company, Burlington

**Assistant directing** 

References to Salvador Dali Jose Rivera The Public Theater, NYC, dir. Jo Bonney

Make Me Hot\*

Neil Simon's Hotel SuiteNeil SimonThe Roundabout, dir. John TillingerA Christmas CarolAdapted for SD RepSan Diego REP, dir Sam Woodhouse

Road to Mecca Athol Fugard Indiana Rep, dir. Amy Saltz

## **Actor**

**Labyrinth** – (plus numerous workshops and over a hundred staged readings of new plays)

Atmosphere of Memory Mike Bank Street Theater, dir Pam MacKinnon Underneath My Bed Doctor M Rattlestick Theater, dir Pedro Pascal

**Other New York Theatre** 

Troilus & Cressida

Little Eagles John Young Royal Shakespeare Company, dir Roxana Silbert Lovesick Jerry Theater for a New City, dir Sturgis Warner

Henry V Fluellen New York Classical Theater, dir Stephen Burdman

Julius Caesar Cassius Aquila, NYC & domestic tour

Patroclus

Junk BondsBillHERE Arts Center, dir Randy RollisonBilly SleepyheadTimmonsCenter Stage New York, dir Jill DeArmon

Whack-a-Mole Ensemble Flea Theater, dir Gary Schwartz

Short Eyes Prison Guard The Public Theater, dir Stephen Adly Guirgis (workshop)

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HERE Arts Center, dir Gary Schwartz (with Phil Hoffman)

## Actor (cont'd)

#### **Short Films**

SpotClientdir Cesa PledgerDance, Dance, DanceDrug Dealerdir Ximena LamadridThe DrawingJohndir Gabriel LongDad and MeDaddir Gabriel LongAnna on the NeckCopy Guydir Gary Schwartz

TV Commercials & VO

Amtrak, McDonalds, etc. Major markets

Audio Book Narrator Audible: The Lovely Dark: Season One

#### Education

## MFA, Directing

Mason Gross School of the Arts Rutgers University New Brunswick, NJ 1994 Three-year program centered on artistic collaboration:

Founder and program head, William Esper, required directors to take the acting curriculum with MFA actors, including the Meisner sequence and two years of movement.

Directors were supervised by directing faculty in rehearsals and received feedback on language used with actors. The curriculum included three, year-long courses in "playwright-director," "designer-director" and "actor-director relationship."

Directed five productions and produced a season in the black box.

Directing faculty: Amy Saltz, Ed Stern, Harold Scott.

Acting faculty: William Esper, Maggie Flanigan, Lenard Petit, Lloyd Williamson.

## **BA**, English Literature

Williams College Williamstown, MA 1987 Related courses included *Advanced Design* with designer Arden Fingerhut, and the *Feminist Critique of Shakespeare*.

Performed on the mainstage all four years and produced and directed several large-scale productions including *Working* the musical, and *The Currier Club*, a devised, site-specific period musical in a 1940's jazz club featuring actors, vocalists and a jazz band.

Two years as the theater critic for *The Williams Record*.

## Diploma, Acting

School for Performing Arts New York City 1982 Seventy-five students were accepted from two thousand applicants city-wide.

Classes included acting, movement, voice & speech, and musical theater. The teachers were students of Stella Adler, Sanford Meisner, Lee Strasberg, Harold Clurman and Uta Hagen.

Cast in the selective *Bus & Truck Company*. Devised a 90-minute musical with a composer and lyricist to explore the darker side of capitalism. Toured high schools throughout the five boroughs.

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# Education (cont'd)

Studio TrainingVO: Shut Up & Talk, NYCNew York & ChicagoAudiobook: Scott Aiello, NYC

Shakespeare: Barry Edelstein and Ian Hersey at The Public Theater, NYC

Scene study: Dan LaMorte at Center Theater, Chicago On-camera: Heidi Marshal at Heidi Marshal Studio, NYC

Monologues: Karen Kohlhaas at The Atlantic Theater School, NYC

## **Awards & Associations**

Member Actors' Equity Association

Member SAG-AFTRA

Member Stage Directors and Choreographers Society

Fringe First Award (The Guardian), Jesus Hopped the A Train, Edinburgh Festival 2001

Directing Fellow, The Drama League, NYC 1996

Labyrinth Theater Company member (Education Committee)

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