

Leo Grierson

Multimedia Theatre Practitioner and Researcher
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Education:

MFA Multimedia Design

Expected May, 2024

University of Maryland

Thesis Title: "A Room Inside a Room Inside a Room: Metamedium in Digital Performance" (in process).

Thesis Committee: Kate Ladenheim, Fatima Quander, Caitlin Marshall, Jared Mezzocchi (Chair)

BFA Acting

June, 2019

University of Southern Oregon, Summa Cum Laude

Two Year Full Time Certificate

June, 2015

The Gaiety School of Acting, Dublin Ireland

Teaching:

Acting for Digital Theatre, TA/Co-Professor

Fall 2024

School of Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies, University of Maryland

- Leading alternate classes with professor Fatima Quander
- Edited pre-existing syllabus to include readings from diverse sources from the fields of media and gender studies, as well as including practical projects where students can explore the themes of the readings
- Combining media theory, performance studies, with actor training to help students engage with technology from a theatrical standpoint
- Planning and leading both lecture based and project oriented classes
- Interdisciplinary approach to teaching technology and theory

- The Cell Theatre, New York, New York, August 2024

Babies on the Street

Media Designer

Avant Garde found-text theater piece exploring social media, voyeurism, and mental health. Actors manipulated live camera feed onstage, which distorted and blended with found media.

- The Brick Theatre, Brooklyn, New York, July 2024

Men with Podcasts

Director, Dramaturg

Hybrid live and audio drama written by Percival Hornack utilizing the form of podcasting to examine the intersection of masculinity and technology.

- Maya Brin Institute of New Performance, University of Maryland, May 2024

Gestural Publics

Media Designer, Animator, Creative Collaborator

Dance performance piece written and choreographed by Kate Ladenheim displaying stock motion animations on both live and digital bodies. Highlighting similarities and contrasts between corporeal and technical efforts and impacts of bodies in space.

- Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center, University of Maryland, December 2023

Rainbow Bridge

Playwright, Director, Media Designer

Digital theater piece about mortality, dogs, femininity, and social media told through digital avatar and facial motion capture.

- Experimental Performance Series, Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center, October 2023

Here I Am

Sound Designer

Created soundscape to assist in telling the family history of Mélisande Short-Colomb; a living descendant of the enslaved people who built Georgetown University.

- The Lab for Global Performance and Politics, April 2023

The Witches You Couldn't Burn

Playwright

A TikTok livestream theater piece satirizing the culture of witchcraft online as it relates to race and gender.

- Fearless New Plays Festival, University of Maryland, February 2023

Cabin 12: A Summer Camp Jubilee

Playwright, Director

Staged in Nintendo's "Animal Crossing: New Horizons", Cabin 12 is a piece of digital puppetry theater that uses cozy game aesthetics to dissect themes of feminine adolescence and queerness.

- New American Theatre Festival, 2021
- Fresno Rogue Festival, 2021
- Oregon Shakespeare Festival Midnight Project, 2019
- Oregon Fringe Festival, 2019

The American Girl Cycle

Playwright, Director, Producer

Six 10 minute plays created in the Pleasant Company Software "American Girl Premiere" using the trademarked characters from the American Girl book series and Dolls; leaning into the glitchy and uncanny characteristics of the technology to tell satirized and messy stories from history.

- Oregon Fringe Festival, 2020

Research Experience and Residencies:

Research Fellow

July, 2024

London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts

Graduate Assistant

Present

Maya Brin Institute for New Performance

Artist in Residence

August, 2024

The Cell Theatre, New York City

Embodied Writing Workshop Fellow **August, 2023**

Celebration Barn Theatre, Maine

Artist in Residence **2021**

National New Play Network Bridge Program

Artistic Direction Intern **2019-2020**

Marin Theatre Company

Acting Company Trainee **2019**

Oregon Shakespeare Festival

Publications:

Ladenheim, Kate, Mary Kate Ford, Leo Grierson, Timothy Kelly “Stock Motion Performances: Digital Motion as Affective Scenography” for The International Federation for Theatre Research, as part of The Symposium on Transformative Scenographic Discourses and Practices, Prague, Czech Republic, 9th and 11th June

2023. <https://iftr.org/working-groups/scenography/iftr-scenography-working-group-prague-quadrennial-2023-interim-event>

Conferences:

Great Plains Theatre Commons **June, 2023**

Media Design Fellow

Awards:

- Jim Henson Puppetry Award, 2023

- International Program for Creative Collaboration and Research Grant Recipient, Spring, 2024
 - University of Maryland Arts Amplification Grant Recipient, 2024
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Theater Experience

I Resist This! By Charlotte Richardson-Deppe

Sound Designer

Next Now Festival, September 2024

Nothing Can Take You From the Hand of God by Jen Tullock and Frank Winters

Sound Designer

Playwrights Horizons New Works Lab, April 2024

Men on Boats by Jaclyn Backhaus

Media Designer

University of Maryland, March 2024

Mini Musical Festival

Media and Sound Designer

Andy's Summer Playhouse, August 2023

Giant Slalom by Jess Honovich

Sound Designer

Andy's Summer Playhouse, July 2023

Murdered Men do Drip and Bleed by Jennifer Barclay and Hannah Khalil

Associate Media Designer to Jared Mezzocchi

Mosaic Theatre Company, May, 2023

Proving Up by Missy Mazzoli and Royce Vavrek

Media Designer

University of Maryland, February 2023

Tiny Beautiful Things by Nia Vardalos

Assistant Director to Michael Hume and Sound Designer

Rogue Theatre Company, August 2021

Drink Along Reading Series

Playwright, Director, Producer

The Juvenilia Collective, 2020-2021

A Christmas Carol adapted by Carlos Zenen-Trujillo

Actor, Bob Cratchit

Oregon Shakespeare Festival, December 2020

Oedipus Rex: a Political Zoom Play adapted by Keith Scales

Director

Isolation Theatre Company, April 2020

Love by Kate Cortesi

Assistant Director to Mike Donahue

Marin Theatre Company, March 2020

Mother of the Maid by Jane Anderson

Assistant Director to Mike Donahue

Marin Theatre Company, November 2019

Indecent by Paula Vogel

Understudy: Female Ingénue

Oregon Shakespeare Festival, 2019

Alice in Wonderland adapted by Eva Le Gallienne and Florida Friebus

Understudy: Alice

Oregon Shakespeare Festival, 2019

Service and Professional Affiliations

- Maya Brin Institute of New Performance - Mess Hall Producer, Fall 2024
- Spectra Media Collective Product Development Committee, Summer 2024-present
- Southern Oregon University Theatre Program Anti Racism Coalition, Summer 2020
- In The Margin - Producing Company Member 2019-present
- Fitzmaurice Vocal Technique Certification, 2019
- Society of American Fight Directors Certification, 2018