

Amy Freed

CURRICULUM VITAE

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Represented by Creative Artists Agency (CAA)
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PROFESSIONAL THEATER ACTIVITIES

Freed's play "Restoration Comedy" received its fifth production and New York premiere at The Flea Theater in Tribeca in December of 2012.

Freed is a current recipient of the Mellon-Foundation Playwriting Residency at Arena Stage in Washington, D.C. As part of her professional work there, the Arena recently produced her play "You, Nero" -- which finished its run in January of 2012. In other activities at Arena, Amy began work on a new script in D.C. in March of 2012. It is based on John Humphrey Noyes and the Utopian experiment known as the Oneida Community. A second workshop took place in June of 2012 at EPPB in NYC. The piece received a third professional workshop in San Francisco in November of 2012.

Another recent play, *The Monster Builder* was commissioned by the Harold and Mimi Steinberg Foundation, through South Coast Repertory Theater. Currently under development, it just received a reading at the New York Theater Workshop this past December, directed by Doug Hughes.

You, Nero, premiered at South Coast Rep in January, 2009. The production was remounted at Berkeley Repertory Theater in May, 2009.

In February of 2008, Freed was Playwright-in-Residence with San Diego's Old Globe Theater, subsequent to their production of *Restoration Comedy*, which debuted at Seattle Repertory theatre. It had its Bay Area premiere at California Shakespeare Festival (2006.)

Freed's play *The Beard of Avon* opened January 16, 2008 at Portland Center Stage in Portland, Oregon. It continues to be performed widely throughout North America, in both Regional theaters and educational institutions.

In March 2008, Amy was honored by Concordia University (Portland) for the contribution that *The Beard of Avon* has made to Shakespeare Studies. She presented a lecture at the conference at Concordia, on the topic of Shakespeare's uses of language arts, and the architecture of Renaissance rhetoric.

For Stanford University, Amy developed *Soul at the White Heat*, an evening of writings by and about Emily Dickinson. It performed on the university campus on January 30, 2008, and again in March.

Freed's plays have been widely produced over the last decade. The following represents a selected additional production history:

Safe in Hell

Premiered Spring of 2004 at South Coast Repertory and at Yale Repertory in the Fall of 2005.

The Beard of Avon

Produced in fall of 2003 at New York Theater Workshop. In the prior two seasons it was produced at The Goodman (Chicago), Seattle Repertory, Can Stage (Toronto), the American Conservatory Theater and the Cincinnati Shakespeare Festival, among other theaters. *The Beard of Avon* was on the 2003 ten-best lists of the New York *Times*, New York *Post*, *Daily News* and *Time* Magazine. It was originally commissioned and produced at South Coast Repertory Theater in June of 2001.

Freedomland

First premiered at South Coast Repertory Theater and was subsequently produced in Washington DC (Woolly Mammoth Theater) NYC (Playwrights Horizons) Salt Lake Actor's Company and other theaters.

The Psychic Life of Savages

First premiered at San Francisco Theater Project at the Magic Theater. Later produced in Washington DC, at Woolly Mammoth Theater, Philadelphia (Wilma Theater) and Seattle (Empty Space Theater). It was produced in 2002 in New Haven at The Yale Repertory Theater.

Claustrophilia

First produced: Climate Theater, San Francisco,
Recent productions: Santa Cruz and Seattle.

Still Warm

First produced: Climate Theater, San Francisco

HONORS AND AWARDS:

2011-2013 Mellon Foundation Playwriting Resident, Arena Stage, Washington DC

2009 Steinberg Commission in Playwriting (for South Coast Repertory)

2006 Harold and Mimi Steinberg/American Theatre Critics Award for best new play: Finalist (*Restoration Comedy*)

Drama Desk Award Nominee, Best New Play ("The Beard of Avon"), 2003

TCG-NEA Playwright in Residence 2002

Los Angeles Critic's Circle Award for best new play 2002 (*The Beard of Avon*)

Pulitzer Prize in Drama Finalist 1998 (*Freedomland*)

Los Angeles Critic's Circle Award for best new play 1997 (*Freedomland*)

New York Arts Club's Joseph Kesselring Award for Best New Play 1995 (*Psychic Life of Savages*)
Helen Hayes-Charles McArthur Award Best New Play 1995 (*Psychic Life of Savages*)

Susan Smith Blackburn Award Finalist best new play 1994 (*Psychic Life of Savages*)

Bay Area Critic's Circle Award Best New Play 1993 (*Psychic Life of Savages*)

California Arts Council Playwriting Fellowship 1992 (*Still Warm*)

PANELS AND PEER REVIEW:

2012 served as playwright-representative and panelist Mellon Foundation National Playwright's Residency Initiative. Panel selected 14 theaters and 14 artists for this groundbreaking program which begins next fall. Also participated throughout 2012 in multiple national theater convenings and panel discussions at Arena Stage as representative artist.

2001-2003 served as a judge and script evaluator for following national arts organizations:

O'Neill Festival

Theater Communications Group\A.T.T.

National Endowment for the Arts\T.C.G.

INTERVIEWS AND ARTICLES:

Subject:

Washington Post (Celia Wren, November 2011)

National Public Radio (Jeff Lundun, November 7, 2011)

Morning Edition-Rene Montaigne (May 7, 2004)

New York *Times* (2005, 2002)

Dallas *Morning News*, Washington *Times*, New York *Magazine*, San Francisco *Chronicle*, *American Theater Magazine*, Los Angeles *Times*, *San Francisco Focus*, San Jose *Mercury News*, Philadelphia *Enquirer*, Washington *Post* and other publications.

The Michael Krasny Show (KQED'S Forum): 2005, 2002, 1993

Articles authored:

Los Angeles Times, *Amy Freed on What's Funny and How to Get There* (January 4, 2009)

Los Angeles Times, *What Possessed Them? ("Safe in Hell")*, (April 4, 2004)

American Theater Magazine, *Who Was That Man: Why Amy Freed Can't Stop Thinking About Shakespeare* (May, 2001)

PUBLICATIONS

THE BEARD OF AVON (Samuel French Play Service, 2004)

BEST WOMEN'S PLAYS 2003 (*Psychic Life of Savages*) Smith and Krause, 2004

FREEDOMLAND (Dramatist's Play Service, 1999)

PLAYS FROM SOUTH COAST REPERTORY (vol. 2), Broadway Play Publishing, 1998

PLAYS FROM SOUTH COAST REPERTORY (vol. 3), Broadway Play Publishing, 2006

PLAYS FROM WOOLLY MAMMOTH, Broadway Play Publishing, 2001

OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Current: 2002-Present: Artist-in-Residence, Stanford University.

Visiting Guest Playwright, University of California at San Diego
Spring 2003

Shakespeare Project Director, Masters of Fine Arts Acting program (American Conservatory Theatre, 1991 – 1995).

Visiting Guest Playwright, San Francisco State 1995

Resident Dramaturge, Pacific Playwright's Festival at South Coast Repertory Theater (1999, 2001, 2003).

EDUCATION

Master of Fine Arts, American Conservatory Theatre

Bachelor of Fine Arts, Southern Methodist University

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