

# Megan McNerney

puppetodyssey.com

## EDUCATION

**Master of Fine Arts**, Drama, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT. Specialization: Puppet Arts. Thesis production: *Balloon*. December 2010.

**Bachelor of Arts in Communication**, Theatre, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, OH. Summa cum laude. May 2002.

## DIRECTION, DESIGN, and COACHING

**Adjunct Faculty**, Directing for the Puppet Theater graduate course  
University of Connecticut Drama Department. Fall 2018-present.

**Workshop Co-Instructor**, Introduction to Puppetry for cast of *Winnie the Pooh*  
Bay Path University. March 2015.

**Artist in Residence: Assistant Director, Puppeteer, Puppet Designer/Builder**, *Robert's Étude*  
National Puppetry Conference, Eugene O'Neill Theater Center. June 2008.  
Dir. Ulysses Jones

**Emerging Artist: Assistant Director, Mask Performer, Mask and Costume Designer**, *Group Étude: A Study in Biomechanics*  
National Puppetry Conference, Eugene O'Neill Theater Center. June 2006.  
Dir. Ulysses Jones

**Puppet Designer/Builder**, *Thomas and Friends Live: Thomas to the Rescue*.  
Touring Production. 2008-2009.  
Dir. Jenn Rapp

**Puppet Designer/Builder**, *Thomas and Friends Live!*  
Touring Production. 2007.  
Dirs. Jenn Rapp & Jim Millan

**Director/ Adaptor/ Puppet Designer**, *Balloon*  
University of Connecticut. March 2006.

**Puppet Designer**, *Peter Pan*  
Connecticut Repertory Theatre. November 2004.  
Dir. Hilary Adams

## **PUPPET, PROP, AND COSTUME CONSTRUCTION**

**Puppet Builder, *Eat A Rainbow***  
No Strings International. July 2016

**Costume Construction, Coca-Cola Polar Bear costumes**  
The Jim Henson Company. May-June 2011.

**Puppet Repair and Construction, *Spider-Man Turn Off the Dark***  
Foxwoods Theater. November-December 2010.

**Lead Skins Technician, *Walking with Dinosaurs: the Arena Spectacular***  
North American Tour. March-August 2009.

**Puppet & Costume Builder, *Avenue Q***  
Rick Lyon. Multiple productions 2008-2009.

**Art Dept. Production Assistant, *Seemore's Playhouse***  
King Features Syndicate and Safety4Kids. July-September 2007.

**Puppet Builder, *Gypsy***  
City Center. July 2007.  
Dir. Arthur Laurents

**Stop-Motion Puppet Costume Builder, *Glenn Martin, DDS***  
Charged Studios. November 2007.

**Puppet Builder, *Go, Diego, Go!***  
Martin P. Robinson Productions. September-December 2006.

## **PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE**

**Puppeteer, television & web commercials**  
Bob's Discount Furniture. November 2017-present.  
Dir. Michael Bannon

**Puppeteer, *Love Notes*, "Clair de Lune"**  
Hartford Symphony Orchestra. February 2016.  
Dir. Bart. P. Roccoberton, Jr.

**Voodoo Puppeteer, *How to Train Your Dragon: Live Spectacular in China***  
Beijing, China. May-August 2014.  
Dir. Nigel Jamieson

**Puppeteer and Co-Creator, *Dhghem***  
Puppets in Paradise Festival, Sandglass Theater. September 2013.  
Dir. Ulysses Jones

**Puppeteer, *Truncated***

Puppets in Paradise Festival, Sandglass Theater. September 2011.  
Dir. Amanda Maddock

**Puppeteer**, *The Cat Who Went to Heaven*.  
The Kennedy Center Family Theater, May 2011.  
The Culture Project, April-May 2008, April-May 2009.  
Dir. Will Pomerantz

**Voodoo Puppeteer**, *Walking with Dinosaurs: the Arena Spectacular*  
North American Tour. September 2009-September 2010.  
Dir. Scott Faris

**Puppeteer**, *Bunraku* opening sequence  
Hornet Films. July 2008.  
Dir. Guilherme Marcondes

**Puppeteer and Puppet Designer/Builder**, *The Forgetting River*  
National Puppetry Conference, Eugene O'Neill Theater Center. June 2007.  
Dirs. Kathleen Baum & Marianne Kubik

**Puppeteer: Poppies**, *Pigeon Holed*  
The West End Theatre. January 2005.  
Dir. Martin P. Robinson

**Puppeteer: Raven**, *Totems: Tales of Raven*  
University of Connecticut. March 2004.  
Dir. David Regan

**Puppeteer: Marley's Ghost**, *A Christmas Carol*  
Connecticut Repertory Theatre. December 2003.  
Dir. Bart. P. Roccoberton, Jr.

**Puppeteer**, Company repertoire, including *Through the Looking Glass*, *Peter and the Wolf*, and *The Snow Queen*  
Das Puppenspiel Puppet Theater, Inc. September 2002-May 2003.

**Puppeteer**, *Pictures at an Exhibition*  
Bowling Green State University. April 2002.  
Dir. Bradford Clark

**Puppeteer**, *The Tempest*  
Bowling Green State University. April 2001.  
Dir. Bradford Clark

## EMPLOYMENT

**Research Assistant**

Institute for Collaboration on Health, Intervention, and Policy, University of Connecticut. November 2011-May 2014, December 2014-December 2017.

- Assist with behavioral psychology research in HIV prevention/intervention
- Responsibilities include project management for research studies, processing study data, screening potential study participants by telephone, handling participant inquiries, tracking budgets, designing recruitment materials, and providing general project support.

### **Research Specialist**

Center for Health, Intervention, and Prevention, Department of Psychology, University of Connecticut. September 2003-November 2011.

- Data entry for psychology research surveys.

### **Millinery Assistant**

Christine A. Moore Millinery, New York, NY. March-June 2007.

- Millinery stitching and construction.

### **Graduate Assistant**

Puppet Arts Program, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT. September 2004-May 2006.

- Assisted in construction of puppets for department productions; oversight of student workers; upkeep of Puppet Arts facilities, including direct supervision of fabric workroom; and setup and preparation for Puppet Arts classes.

### **Properties Master**

American Stage Festival, Nashua, NH. May-August 2001.

- Responsible for research, design, procurement, and construction of properties for summer theatre season.

## **PERFORMANCE TRAINING**

Sandglass Summer Puppetry Institute, Sandglass Theater, Putney, VT. 2005.

Biomechanics training with Marianne Kubik, University of Connecticut. 2006.

Biomechanics workshop with Kathleen Baum, New York, NY. 2008.

Alexander Technique workshop with Elizabeth Huebner, University of Connecticut. 2006.

Mask training with Larry Hunt and Augusto Cabrera, University of Connecticut. 2003.

Mask workshop with Greg Webster, University of Connecticut. 2006.

## **SKILLS**

Microsoft Excel Intermediate and Advanced ONLC Training Certification

Microsoft Word, Access, Publisher proficiency

QDS survey software Tabletop-style puppet performance.

Rod puppet and shadow puppet performance.

Mask and movement performance.

Sculpture in clay, foam, paper, and wood.

Casting and mold-making, including face casting.

Painting puppets/masks/props, basic scenic painting.

Machine and hand sewing, including faux fur.

Thermoplastic, papier mâché, and minicell foam fabrication.

