# FRANCESCA (CESSA) BETANCOURT

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# INTIMACY DIRECTION [THEATRE]

| Production                               | Company                      | Location              |
|--|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Comedy of Errors                         | Seattle Shakespeare Co.      | Seattle, WA           |
| Our Dear Dead Drug Lord                  | Washington Ensemble Theatre  | Seattle, WA           |
| Venus in Fur                             | inD Theatre                  | Bainbridge Island, WA |
| 2 HOT 2 TOUCH                            | Jet City Improv              | Seattle, WA           |
| Henry IV Part 1 + 2                      | Seattle Shakespeare Co.      | Seattle, WA           |
| In the Time of Butterflies               | Book-It Repertory Theatre    | Seattle, WA           |
| In the Next Room or<br>The Vibrator Play | Eastline Theatre             | Long Island, NY       |
| SWEAT                                    | A Contemporary Theatre (ACT) | Seattle, WA           |
| Two Mile Hollow                          | Intiman Theatre              | Seattle, WA           |
| Mrs. Caliban                             | Book-It Repertory Theatre    | Seattle, WA           |
| As You Like It                           | Seattle Shakespeare Co       | Seattle, WA           |
| Hamlet                                   | Seattle Shakespeare Co       | Seattle, WA           |
| Indoor Person                            | Normal Ave (Off-Broadway)    | New York City, NY     |
| PEELING                                  | Sound Theatre Co             | Seattle, WA           |
| Lemons Lemons<br>Lemons Lemons           | Theater Schmeater            | Seattle, WA           |
| The Devil and Sara<br>Blackwater         | Annex Theatre                | Seattle, WA           |
| Two Sisters and A Piano                  | Theater Schmeater            | Seattle, WA           |
| SIX                                      | HERON Ensemble               | Seattle, WA           |

# INTIMACY COORDINATION [FILM]

| Title                   | Company                 | Location    |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|
| SKAGIT (feature length) | White Noise Productions | Seattle, WA |

# FACILITATION + CONSULTATION

# Intimacy Directors & Coordinators • February 2022 - present

Four and six week courses in IDC's consent-forward artist and certification programs

#### Seattle Rep · April 2023

Half day training event for company staff on working with intimacy directors and supporting intimacy in theatre

#### Western Washington University • Spring and Fall 2022

Half day training events with students and faculty on best practices around consent and intimacy

#### Jet City Improv · Winter 2021

Two day training for both improv performers and staff around consent in spontaneous and improvised work.

#### 5th Avenue Theatre • Spring and Fall 2022

Half day training events with students and educators on best practices around consent and intimacy

#### City University of New York School of Professional Studies · Winter 2020

Half day training on trauma informed and consent forward practice

### Western Washington University • 2011 - 2013

Assistant teaching for multiple acting classes as an undergraduate student

#### OTHER RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

#### **The Intimacy Collective** Member | *Remote* • May 2020 - Present

I am part of an intimacy direction research group and think tank made up of Ann James (Intimacy Coordinators of Color), Jess Smith (University of Puget Sound), and myself. We analyze the current intimacy direction field and study the challenges and successes thus far. We are currently building our own training program.

#### Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival Region 8 (Southwest)

At-Large Board Member in *Access, Care, and Intimacy Direction* | *Regional* • August 2020 - Present I serve on the board of KCACTF Region 8 to consult specifically on accessibility, mental health and care, and intimacy direction for the festival. I also train respondents for ACTF on racial cultural competence.

## Pacific Northwest Theatrical Intimacy Member | Remote/regional • 2020 - Present

I am part of a collective of theatrical intimacy professionals working in or connected to the Pacific Northwest (PNW) who advocate for best practices in order to foster a culture of care, consent, and healthy boundaries by educating local theatre artists and organizations and building pathways of connection amongst our community.

## **EDUCATION & TRAINING**

## B.A. in Theatre Arts and Sociology, Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA

Sociology concentrations: intimate relationships and social justice

**Rich Brown** Grotowski, comic combat, Suzuki, Viewpoints, devising and composition, Commedia Dell'Arte

Maureen O'Reilly Moliere, Shakespeare, dialect and diction

Jim Lortz Stanislavsky, solo performance

Mark Kuntz directing

#### Master's Training in Applied Theatre, City University of New York, New York City

One semester (12 credits)

#### **Intiman Emerging Artist Program**

Andrew Russell, Jéhan Ósanyìn, Kevin Lin, Erin Murray, Valerie Curtis-Newton, Alice Gosti, Lily Raabe

First Aid Arts (trauma informed arts facilitation)

Certified in the Healing Arts Toolkit

#### Theatrical Intimacy Education

30 hours of training in best practices and studio techniques in intimacy direction, race and intimacy, and intimacy coordination for film

## Sound Theatre Company

8 week training on ASL and equitably working with Deaf and Hard of Hearing artists

## **Intimacy Directors & Coordinators**

Training equal to the IDC certification, I am a teacher for IDC's certification program.

## **Independent Training**

The Margolis Method (Kari Margolis) Margolis Method

Dell'Arte International (Matt Chapman) Commedia Dell'Arte

The Society of American Fight Directors (Rob Hunter) Hand-to-hand combat

Artists Striving To End Poverty (Abby Gerdts) Cultural Competence

Sara Morgulis and Jerron Herman Accessibility & Disability in Theatre

Intimacy Coordinators of Color Racial Trauma in the Rehearsal Room, Intimacy with Gender

Nonconforming and Trans Actors

Nicole Brewer Anti-Racist Theatre

Moving Body Arts Trauma Informed Intimacy

Hollaback! Bystander Intervention

Sunflower Strategists Inc. Restorative Justice and Conflict Resolution (6 hours)

# SPECIAL SKILLS

- Dance (intermediate modern, lyrical and hip hop, basic ballet, tap, choreography)
- Devising and Composition
- intermediate Spanish
- Facilitation & mediation (all ages)
- basic hand to hand stage combat
- LGBTQIA+ and Latine/Hispanic & immigrant/refugee stories
- trained in abuse prevention, conflict resolution, racial/gender equity practices, accessibility, and inclusivity
- certified in Mental Health First Aid

## AWARDS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Grant recipient of the 2018 GAP Award from Artist Trust, ensemble nominee for People's Choice Award at the 2018 Gregory Awards, Irene Ryan nationalist at the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival 2012, Intimacy work spotlighted in Playbill and Howlround