

FRANCESCA (CESSA) BETANCOURT

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full artistic resume available upon request

INTIMACY DIRECTION [THEATRE]

Production	Company	Location
In the Time of Butterflies	Book-It Repertory Theatre	Seattle, WA
In the Next Room or The Vibrator Play	Eastline Theatre	Long Island, NY
SWEAT	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 Lemons Lemons Lemons	Theater Schmeater	Seattle, WA
The Devil and Sara Blackwater	Annex Theatre	Seattle, WA
Two Sisters and A Piano	Theater Schmeater	Seattle, WA
SIX	HERON Ensemble	Seattle, WA

INTIMACY COORDINATION / DIRECTION [FILM]

Title	Role	Company / Location
SKAGIT (feature length)	Intimacy Coordinator	White Noise Productions / Seattle, WA
Sleepless (short)	Director/Choreo	6 AM Films / Seattle, WA

FACILITATION

Intimacy Directors & Coordinators Facilitator | *Remote* • February 2022 - present
I facilitate courses for IDC's consent-forward artist and certification programs.

Independent: Consent, Body Autonomy, & Intimacy in Collaborative Spaces and Performance
Teacher/Facilitator | *Remote* •
May 2020 - June 2022

I facilitated a remote introductory workshop based on my training, experience, and research on the basics of fostering consent and autonomy in collaborative or improvisational contexts. I have also presented this workshop to AATE, the New York Thespian Festival, and the Washington Thespian Festival. I also facilitated a pay-what-you-can remote introductory workshop based on my training, experience, and research on the basics of fostering consent and autonomy in performance, and outlined the principles I use when intimacy directing. It was attended by over 100 people from multiple countries and backgrounds.

The 5th Avenue Theatre Teacher/Facilitator | *Remote* • February 2021

I was brought into the 5th Avenue Theatre's education department to facilitate a two person scene with an emphasis on consent for high schoolers.

Jet City Improv Teacher/Facilitator | *Remote* • October 2020

I was commissioned by Jet City Improv in Seattle, WA to develop and facilitate a workshop around consent and boundaries in the comedy field, specifically how to navigate consent in improvised and spontaneous spaces.

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

M.A. in Applied Theatre, City University of New York, New York City

One semester (12 credits)

Workshops and Master Classes

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

Intiman Emerging Artist Program

Andrew Russell, Jehan Osanyin, 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

IDC certification to be completed by December 2022

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, 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