

Sam Helfrich

Opera and Theatre Director

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OPERA

(upcoming)

The Leopard , Dellaira Sardinian National Opera, Italy	September 2020
Ariodante , Handel Boston Baroque Orchestra, MA	March 2020

(past)

Permadeath , Dan Visconti White Snake Productions at the Majestic Theater, Boston, MA	September 2018
Why is Eartha Kitt Trying to Kill Me , Jeffrey Smith Urban Arias, VA	July 2018
The Magic Flute , Mozart Indianapolis Symphony, IA	June 2018
The Summer King , Daniel Sonenberg Michigan Opera Theater, MI	May 2018
Creation , Haydn Pittsburgh Symphony, PA	November 2017
Angels in America , Péter Eötvös New York City Opera, NY	June 2017
The Summer King (world premiere) Daniel Sonenberg Pittsburgh Opera, PA	April 2017
Madam Butterfly , Puccini Palm Beach Opera, FL	January 2017
St John Passion , Bach Pittsburgh Symphony, PA	March 2016
Embedded (World premiere), Soluri/Brevoort Fargo-Moorehead Opera, ND / Fort Worth Opera, TX	2014-2016
Orphée aux Enfers , Offenbach Virginia Opera, VA	September 2015
Enemies, A Love Story (world premiere), Ben Moore Palm Beach Opera, FL	January 2015
Cavalleria Rusticana , Mascagni String Orchestra Of Brooklyn, St Ann's Church, NY	November 2015
Orphée , Glass Pittsburgh Opera, PA	April 2014
Ariadne auf Naxos , Strauss Virginia Opera, VA	February 2014
Dead Man Walking , Heggie Eugene Opera, OR	March 2013
A Streetcar Named Desire , Previn Virginia Opera, VA	February 2013
Kepler (American premiere), Glass Spoleto Festival/USA, SC	May 2012
Nixon in China , Adams Eugene Opera, OR	March 2012
Orphée , Glass Virginia Opera, VA	February 2012
Messiah (fully-staged), Handel Pittsburgh Symphony, PA	December 2011
The Secret Agent (world premiere), Dellaira Armel Opera Festival, Hungary	October 2011
La Bohème , Puccini Manhattan School of Music Summer Voice Festival, NY	June 2011
Les Indes Galantes , Rameau Boston Baroque, MA	May 2011
The Secret Agent (world premiere), Dellaira	March 2011

Center for Contemporary Opera, NY	
Don Giovanni , Mozart	February 2011
Yale Opera, CT	
Cosí fan tutte , Mozart	July 2010
Delaware Valley Opera, NY	
The Turn of the Screw , Britten	February 2010
Boston Lyric Opera, MA	
Orphée , Glass	November 2009
Portland Opera, OR	
Eugene Onegin , Tchaikovsky	September 2009
Pittsburgh Opera, PA	
The Consul , Menotti	July 2009
Glimmerglass Opera, NY	
Louise , Charpentier	May 2009
Spoletto Festival/USA, SC	
Der Freischutz , Weber	October 2008
Opera Boston, MA	
Amistad , Davis	May 2008
Spoletto Festival /USA, SC	
Aida , Verdi	April 2008
Opera Omaha, NE	
Semele , Handel	February 2008
Opera Boston, MA	
Le Comte Ory , Rossini	November 2007
Juilliard Opera Center, NY	
Orphée , Glass	July 2007
Glimmerglass Opera, NY	
The Rise and Fall of the City of Mahagonny , Weill/Brecht	February 2007
Opera Boston, MA	
Don Giovanni , Mozart	October 2006
Boston Baroque, MA (semi-staged)	
West Side Story , Bernstein	July 2006
Ashlawn-Highland Opera Festival, VA	
The Abduction from the Seraglio , Mozart	May 2006
Opera Omaha, NE	
Il Barbiere di Sivigliia , Rossini	February 2006
Kentucky Opera, KY	
Agrippina , Handel	October, 2005
Boston Baroque, MA (semi-staged)	
L'Elisir d'Amore , Donizetti	August 2005
Berkshire Opera Company, MA	
La Voix Humaine , Poulenc	July 2005
Glimmerglass Opera, NY	
The Turn of the Screw , Britten	February 2005
Pittsburgh Opera, PA	
Trouble in Tahiti , Bernstein	September 2004
Florida Grand Opera, FL	
Trouble in Tahiti , Bernstein / A Hand of Bridge , Barber / A Game of Chance , Barab	July 2004
Berkshire Opera Company, MA	
Mirandolina , Martinu	April 2004
Manhattan School of Music, NY	
Il Barbiere di Siviglia , Rossini	August 2003
Wolf Trap Opera Company, VA	
The Secret Marriage , Cimarosa	July 2003
Berkshire Opera Company, MA	
Rain , a new opera by Richard Owen	February 2003
Camerata/NY, Alice Tully Hall, Lincoln Center, NY	
Amahl and the Night Visitors , Menotti	December 2001
Opera Company of Brooklyn, NY	
Die Walküre , Wagner	May 2001
Riverside Church, NY	
Miss Havisham's Wedding Night , Argento	November 2000
Hofstra University, NY	

THEATRE

DIRECTOR

After The Fall , Miller NYU Grad Acting, NY	October 2014
Village Wooing (Shaw) + A Door Must be Kept Open or Shut (De Musset) Franklin Stage Company, NY	June 2013
Owned (World premiere), Julian Sheppard Knife Edge Productions, NY	May 2013
Tape , Stephen Belber Knife Edge Productions, NY	September 2011
Obama , Wade Savitt NY Avante Garde Theater Festival, NY	July 2011
Dark Ride , by Len Jenkins Bard College, NY	December 2004
In A Pig's Valise , a musical by Eric Overmeyer Bard College, NY	March 2004
Transparency of Val , by Stephen Belber, La Tea Theatre Captains of Industry, producers	July 2002
5:30 PM, Tuesday , by Winter Miller, PSNBC at H.E.R.E. Columbia/NYU Young Playwrights series	May 2002
Packaging Sunshine , MFA thesis at Horace Mann Theatre Columbia University, New York	January 2000
Copywrite , by Averi La Russa, 42 nd Street Collective, NY	October 1996
When the Time Is Right , by Spencer Barros, 42 nd Street Collective, in association with Evening Shade Theatre Company, NY	March 1996
La Ronde (an adaptation), by Arthur Schnitzler 42 nd Street Collective, NY	July 1995

PLAYWRIGHT

Packaging Sunshine , MFA thesis at Horace Mann Theatre, NY	January 2000
Aftermath , 42 nd Street Collective, NY, directed by Tina Byrsted	November 1996
A School Night , Samuel Beckett Theatre (Winterfest '96), NY directed by Efrat Levin	January 1996
A School Night , 42 nd Street Collective, directed by Efrat Levin	November 1995

TEACHING

New York University - Tisch School of the Arts, Department of Design for Stage and Film Associate Arts Professor, Head of Dramaturgy	2015-present
New York University - Tisch School of the Arts, Department of Design for Stage and Film Interim Department Chair	Spring 2017
New York University - Tisch School of the Arts, Department of Design for Stage and Film Visiting Arts Professor	2012-2014
New York University - Tisch School of the Arts, Department of Design for Stage and Film (graduate scenic design thesis) – Adjunct professor	2012
Shenandoah Conservatory — guest director/acting teacher	2012
Yale School of Music/Yale School of Drama (directing) – Guest professor/director	2010, 2011
Manhattan School of Music Summer Voice Program (acting training/director)	2011

EDUCATION

(degrees)

Columbia University School of the Arts , New York, NY MFA, Theatre Arts	1997-2000
Columbia College of Columbia University , New York, NY BA, Russian Language and Literature; Magna Cum Laude	1987-1991

(non degree)

42nd Street Collective Theatre Training School , New York, NY Directing, Playwriting	1995-1997
Universitat de Barcelona , Barcelona, Spain Certificado: Spanish Studies (Language, Literature, Culture)	1993-1994
Escuela de Letras , Madrid, Spain Creación Literaria (Creative Writing)	1992-1993
Leningrad State University , Leningrad, USSR Russian Language, Literature, and Culture	1989

LANGUAGES

(by fluency) Spanish, Russian, French, German, Italian, Catalan