

STACIE CHAIKEN

writer performer (educator)

- 2022 - 2023 (ongoing) Producer/curator/writer-performer, *Rant & Rave*, a monthly story-telling event, Rogue Machine Theatre, Los Angeles.
- 2021 - 2022 Writer-performer, *On the Howl (Terrain Vague)*, a play. Virtual.
- 2021 Author, *Looking for Louie*, NoPassport Press, New York.
- 2021 Writer-performer, *Dark Esther (Terrain Vague)*, a play. Virtual.
- 2020 Author (forthcoming): *Remember Rwanda: A Rainbow of Broken Glass, like Teeth*, a memoir.
- 2019 Writer-performer, *The DIG: death, Genesis & the double helix*, directed by Pamela Berlin. Premiere with new score, composed and performed by *Yuval Ron*, with sound by Tim Labor, at Glorya Kaufman Dance Theatre.
- 2019 Writer-performer, *Don't Flinch !! (Terrain Vague)* A solo play about the Main Street Gym. Premiere, Son of Semele Solo Creation Festival, Los Angeles.
- 2018 Writer-performer, *Saint Vibiana PRAY4US (Terrain Vague)* A solo play about the now-defrocked patron saint of Los Angeles. Premiere, Son of Semele Solo Creation Festival.
- 2018 - 2023 (ongoing) Writer-performer, *Terrain Vague (Empty Space)* A series of site-specific and virtual performance and installation pieces, based on an historic excavation of one square block of Downtown Los Angeles.
- 2016 Writer-performer, *The DIG: death, Genesis & the double helix*, directed by Pamela Berlin, produced by Latino Theatre Company at Los Angeles Theatre Center. (2017 Stage Raw Theater Award for Solo Performance)
- 2015 - 2022 Writer-Performer/story consultant/event producer, *NewGround: a Muslim-Jewish Partnership for Change*.
- 2014 Author, *An Artist in Rwanda: Folding in Grief*, in *PastForward*, a publication of the USC Shoah Foundation, August.
- 2013 - 2014 International Creative Director, *Kwibuka20, the 20-year commemoration of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda*. Concept and production of public-art, community, and performance events, in and outside of Rwanda.
- 2013 Author, *Artistry and Innovation: Witness and Responsibility*, in *Theatre Communications Group Circle*.

- 2013 Writer-performer/director/producer, *Imaging Genocide: Artistic Responses to Mass Violence: Storytelling and Performance*, The USC Shoah Foundation.
- 2013 Author, *Leapin' Lizards*, ed. William Cutter, *A New Way to Present an Academic Argument*.
- 2012 Creator/producer, *Witness and Responsibility*, a multi-disciplinary conference, produced with the USC Shoah Foundation: How artists respond to catastrophic narratives.
- 2011 Writer-performer, *What She Left*, a solo play, based on materials from the USC Holocaust and Genocide Research Collection. World premiere, Ray Stark Theater, produced by USC Visions and Voices/the Shoah Foundation.
- 2011 Author, *Digging in the Dirt in Israel Palestine and LA*, in *ZEEK: A Jewish Journal of Art and Culture*.
- 2010 Author, *Manifesto 2010: Performing Identity*, Arts in the One World, Brown University
- 2010 Writer-performer, *The Archaeology of Inspiration*, A multi-media pechakucha presentation, Theatre Communications Group.
- 2009 Writer-performer/producer, *The Archaeology of Inspiration/The DIG*, USC. A series of expert lectures, community conversation, and work-in-progress performance.
- 2008 + 2007 Director/producer, *What's the Story? Festival of New Solo Plays*, Los Angeles.
- 2005 Co-writer/director/workshop facilitator, *Getting Off (the Fence)*, devised performance, Gateways Beit T'Shuvah, Los Angeles.
- 2002 Author, *The Golden Rule*, in Fringe Benefits' *Cootie Shots: Theatrical Inoculations Against Bigotry*, Theatre Communications Group.
- 2002 Co-writer/director/workshop facilitator, *Nada No Es Nada*, devised performance, Mercado La Paloma, Los Angeles. (DCA Artist in Residence project)
- 2001 Author, *The True Me*, in Fringe Benefits' *Clothes Minded*.
- 1999 - 2005 Writer-performer, *Looking for Louie*, A solo play, unearthing family story.
 Israel Palestine 2003 -2005, with a new live bass score by Eli Magen. Premiere at Arab-Hebrew Theatre, Jaffa; Cameri Theatre Cabaret, Tel Aviv, and seven-city tour.
 Los Angeles revival, directed by Stephanie Shroyer, with a live bass score by Ian Walker, at Stages Theatre Center Hollywood.
 New York premiere, 2000, directed by Marcy Arlin, with recorded bass accompaniment by Ian Walker, at the Tenement Theatre on Delancy Street.
 Los Angeles premiere, 1999, with recorded bass accompaniment by Ian Walker, at Pacific Resident Theatre.

TEACHING

- 2001- 2023 (ongoing) Founder and Artistic Director, [What's the Story? Los Angeles](#).
A studio for artists making compelling stuff, based on personal material.
- 2015 - 2022 Story consultant and facilitator, [NewGround: a Muslim-Jewish Partnership for Change](#), Los Angeles.
- 2020 - 2022 Mentor, [Write Girl](#), Los Angeles.
- 2015 Mentor, Artizen Lab, The Music Center, Los Angeles.
- 2013 - 2014 Writing Workshops, Kigali Genocide Memorial, Rwanda.
Weekly group-process creative process for student genocide survivors.
- 2013 Guest Instructor, American Jewish University, Los Angeles.
Storytelling; crafting and dissemination of substantial content via traditional and new media.
- 2001 - 2013 Professor, Performance Faculty, University of Southern California School of Dramatic Arts. Created courses in Introductory, Intermediate, Advanced Acting; Character Acting; Solo Performance; Storytelling; Directed Studies in Writing for Performance.
- 2005 - 2013 Professor, Freshman Seminars, University of Southern California Dornsife College.
Invited to create provocative creative-process courses for incoming freshman.
- 2008 Artist-in-Residence, Hebrew Union College, Los Angeles.
A course for advanced rabbinical students on appropriate use of personal material in pastoral work, and sermons.
- 2005 - 2006 Drama Teacher, New Community Jewish High School, Los Angeles.
- 2005 Master Teacher, Tel Aviv University.
Fulbright Senior Specialist: Solo Performance; Performing Shakespeare in translation.
- 2004 Master Teacher, Tel Aviv University.
Gesture: A Master Class for Fine Arts and Theatre Students, co-created and taught with Ruth Weisberg, University of Southern California Roski School of Fine Arts.
- 2004 Guest Lecturer, the Shandy Rudoff Creative Writing Program, Bar Ilan University, Tel Aviv. Personalization of biblical story in creative work.
- 2003 - 2004 Master Teacher, Tel Aviv University.
Fulbright Senior Specialist: Solo Performance; Performing Modern American Plays in translation.
- 2001 - 2003 Instructor, American Jewish University School of Continuing Education.
A course in excavation of oral history and use of personal material in creative work.
- 2000 Guest Lecturer, Tisch School of the Arts, New York University.
Autobiographical Performance.
- 1997 - 2002 Workshop leader, Fringe Benefits, Los Angeles.
Devised performance and community story-making with LGBTQ communities in Los Angeles; and orthodox Jewish communities in Crown Heights, New York.

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

Royal National Theatre Studio Actors Training, London.

Acting (New York): Lenore Dekoven; Kathryn Gately; Alan Langdon; Vivian Matalon.

Acting (Los Angeles): Larry Moss.

Solo performance (London): Ken Campbell.

Physical technique (New York): Loyd Williamson.

Vocal production and dialects (London): Patsy Rodenberg.

Vocal production and dialects (New York): Kristin Linklater.

EDUCATION

MFA, Creative Writing, Antioch University, Los Angeles.

Certification in Conflict Resolution, Loyola Law School, Los Angeles.

MA, Theater, Directing, University of California, Berkeley.

BA, summa cum laude, Theater & Religious Studies, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Actors Equity Association • Alliance of Los Angeles Playwrights

Creative Visions • Dramatists Guild of America • Fractured Atlas • Fulbright Association

Independent Writers of Southern California • Jewish Artists Initiative • Honor Roll

Los Angeles Conservancy • Network of Ensemble Theaters • New Play Exchange

NoPassport • Pacific Resident Theatre • Pen USA • Rogue Machine Theatre • SAG-AFTRA

Theatre Communications Group • Yivo Institute

GRANTS + AWARDS

- 2022 Annenberg | Helix Foundation: David Shneer New Yiddish Culture Grant.
- 2019 to 2020 Cultural Trailblazer, Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs.
- 2018 to 2019 Cultural Trailblazer, Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs.
- 2018 to 2019 Fellow, [The Wallace Annenberg Helix Project](#).
- 2017 Los Angeles Stage Raw Theater Award for Solo Performance: *The DIG*.
- 2016 Fellow, Institute for Jewish Creativity, *Dream Lab Fellowship*.
- 2015 Fellow, Institute for Jewish Creativity, *Inquiry Fellowship*.
- 2013 USC Visions & Voices: *Imaging Genocide*, produced with the USC Shoah Foundation.
- 2011 USC Visions & Voices: *What She Left*, produced with the USC Shoah Foundation.
- 2009 Durfee Foundation Artists Completion Grant: *The Dig*.
- 2009 USC Visions & Voices: *The Archaeology of Inspiration/The DIG*.
- 2008 Artist in Residence, Hebrew Union College.
- 2006 Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture Fellowship grant: *The Dig*.
- 2003 to 2005 Fellow, Mishkan Omanim, Herzliya, Israel Palestine.
- 2004 The Durfee Foundation Artists Completion Grant: *Looking for Louie*.
- 2003 to 2008 Fulbright Foundation Senior Specialist: *Performance and Story*.
- 2003 to 2008 Roster of Touring Artists: *Looking for Louie*, California Arts Council.
- 2003 USC Arts Initiative Faculty Collaboration grant: for *The HOME Project/Armenia*: story personal story workshops in the Armenian community, Glendale,
- 2002 Artist in Residence grant, Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs, for *The HOME Project: El Proyecto Mi Tierra*, at Mercado La Paloma.
- 2001 to 2003 Faculty Collaboration grants, USC Arts Initiative, for *The HOME Project/West Adams* and *The HOME Project/USC*. Personal story workshops, culminating in devised performances by students born outside the United States.