An Actor's Statement of Artistry

Debbie Merary Banos

University of Arkansas, Fayetteville

Follow this and additional works at: http://scholarworks.uark.edu/etd

Part of the Performance Studies Commons

Recommended Citation

http://scholarworks.uark.edu/etd/2222

This Thesis is brought to you for free and open access by ScholarWorks@UARK. It has been accepted for inclusion in Theses and Dissertations by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks@UARK. For more information, please contact scholar@uark.edu, ccmiddle@uark.edu.
An Actor’s Statement of Artistry
An Actor’s Statement of Artistry

A thesis submitted in partial fulfillment
of the requirements for the degree of
Master of Fine Arts in Drama

by

Debbie Merary Banos
University of Arkansas Fort Smith
Bachelor of Arts in Theatre, 2011

August 2014
University of Arkansas

This thesis is approved for recommendation to the Graduate Council.

__________________________________
Amy Herzberg, M.F.A.
Thesis Director

__________________________________
Kate Frank, M.F.A.
Committee Member

__________________________________
Mavourneen Dwyer, M.F.A.
Committee Member
ABSTRACT

This thesis consists of my statement of artistry, and documentation of my thesis performance.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Special thanks to:

All the people who made me who I am.

My mother, Merary Banos who sacrificed her dreams for mine.

My father, Ricardo Banos whose heart I’ve inherited.

My brother, Kenneth Banos who loudly sang with me everywhere.

My sister, Ashley Banos who never ceases to amaze me with her unique view of everything.

My professors who taught me how to keep learning.

My friends who believe in me.
DEDICATION

This is dedicated to:

Everyone who feels jaded by life may you peel back the pain and thrive against all hope.
TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. STATEMENT OF ARTISTRY .......................................................... 1
II. SHOWCASE PRODUCTION PROGRAM ......................................... 4
III. WEBSITE LINK ......................................................................... 6
IV. HEADSHOT AND RESUME .......................................................... 7
V. WORKS CITED ........................................................................... 9
VI. APPENDIX A: PROOF OF PERMISSION ....................................... 1
STATEMENT OF ARTISTRY

I believe theatre has the power to change lives. On March 23, 2014 I attended a production of “Into the Woods” as performed by the Hypocrites in Chicago. Going in to see “Into the Woods”, I did not know that I needed to see that show more than anything. At the time I was dealing with deep personal pain that I couldn’t make peace with and that show, that funny, fairy tale, musical, gave me the power of forgiveness; Forgiveness for myself and for others. That is what theatre can do.

My goals concerning acting and theatre come in steps. First I must make sure that I can create the kind of theatre that can reach people, then I would like to accomplish my personal goals, and finally and most importantly I want to change the world.

Theatre can only genuinely transform the audience if the performance is honest. Honest theatre work is what I want to create. I truly believe that if my work is honest, my work will reach someone. I plan on doing this by working on approaching everything with an egoless heart. I think the most important thing that I have learned during my training at the University of Arkansas is not an acting technique but a way of looking at my work. Amy Herzberg always says, “Do unto yourself, as you would do unto others,” which is to say be generous and patient with yourself. If I am not generous with myself I get in my own way, my self-pity can overwhelm my performance and all I end up doing is worrying about things that are out of my control. However on the other hand it does me no good to come into anything with ego. The moment I feel “I should know this,” or worse “I know this,” I become obstinate and can’t see past my own ideas, and as a result I become frustrated and useless. What I will strive to do is to
approach everything as a student of theatre, a person who has no judgment on her shortcomings and no arrogance about her ability, but trust in the process.

I have many personal goals that will bring me great satisfaction and they include exploring three specific types of work: Shakespeare, new works, and film. I love Shakespeare and feel that his language is a spiritual experience. And because I feel so strongly towards Shakespeare I would love to at some point in my career become a part of a Shakespearean company. To accomplish this goal I will continue with my Shakespeare training in Chicago and I will audition for as many Shakespeare companies as possible. During my time at the University of Arkansas I have fallen in love with new works. I love working with a playwright during the development process because of how raw and real the playwright’s original impulse is. I want to continue working on new plays. To accomplish this I will be active in finding new play readings that I can be a part of wherever I go. Film reaches so many people and I don’t know much about it. I want to learn because I am curious, and also because as an actor I should take advantage of another venue for my talents. I love learning new things and I love films. I’m excited about the prospect of doing film work. To accomplish this I will take an on-camera class immediately.

To change the world I want to tell the kind of stories that need to be heard, the stories of marginalized people, and the stories of the Latino/Hispanic community. The first step to changing the world is getting the information out there to start combating ignorance and prejudice. The next step has to do with the frequency of exposure. This just means get the stories out there more often. This work will never be done. There will always be something that needs to change. To accomplish as much work on changing the world, I will first seek out the work that needs to be performed, be it a story about human rights, politics, society, religion, or
the environment. Finally I will create my own company that will operate under my value system so that steps one and two can be accomplished in a more reliable manner. I am sure that once I start working on my goals my heart will direct me where I am needed.

Above all, I never want to loose my love for people and the desire to serve them.
Family and Friends, Thank you.

Also, thank you to everyone in this wonderful department.

Gibbs, and Kris Stoker.
Lee, Danni Archish, Lass Wade, Dr. Andy
Dwyer, Michael Landman, Bob Ford, Jeanine
Amy Herberth, Kate Frank, Mavounmean

Helped us grow!

Thank you wonderful faculty members who

made this performance possible, including but not

limited to: Jeanine Lee, Jason Shinman.

We would like to thank everyone who made

Acknowledgments

Actors.
Duet &
Solos &
Scenes &
Monologues &
Program designed by author.

1. Reasons to be Pretty
2. Proof
3. Manhattan
4. The Mother Tucker with a Hat
5. Spike Heels
6. Three Sisters
7. Waiting for Godot
8. The Two Noble Kinsmen
9. Henry IV, Part 2
10. "All the Wasted Time" from Parade
11. "I Believe" from The Book of Mormon
12. "Breathe" from In the Heights
13. "Angony" from Into the Woods
14. "Lesson #8" from Sunday in the Park
15. "Move On" from Sunday in the Park with George

Hon. requirements:
This performance is in partial fulfillment with grade.

Summer of '14.
Is moving to the Manila, Philippines in the Missy Marimara
15.
Kieren Crow
Is moving to Los Angeles in the spring of
Debbie Bahns
Actors
An evening with Actors
WEBSITE LINK

http://www.debbiebanos.com
Photo reprinted with permission from photographer, Rob Sutton.
Debbie Baños
Height: 5’3”  ·  Hair: Black  ·  Eyes: Brown  ·  Voice: Mezzo-Soprano

Regional

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Play</th>
<th>Director</th>
<th>Company</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Marisela</td>
<td>Just Like Us</td>
<td>Tlacol Rivas, Karen Zacarías</td>
<td>TheatreSquared</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Octavio</td>
<td>Don Chipotle</td>
<td>Morgan Hicks, Juan Francisco Villa</td>
<td>TheatreSquared</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carol</td>
<td>Oleanna</td>
<td>Andrew Snyder</td>
<td>iB Productions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sophia</td>
<td>Calculation</td>
<td>Amy Herzberg</td>
<td>Boars Head Players</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bernardo</td>
<td>Hamlet</td>
<td>Bob Stevenson, Josh Smith</td>
<td>Paradigm Theatre</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Educational

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Play</th>
<th>Director</th>
<th>Company</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anna</td>
<td>Spring Awakening</td>
<td>Shana Gold</td>
<td>University of Arkansas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ana</td>
<td>The Clean House</td>
<td>Kate Frank</td>
<td>University of Arkansas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kathy</td>
<td>Company</td>
<td>Kate Frank</td>
<td>University of Arkansas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunny Jacobs</td>
<td>The Exonerated</td>
<td>Morgan Hicks</td>
<td>University of Arkansas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Janie et. Al</td>
<td>Wonder of the World</td>
<td>Michael</td>
<td>Acting Core</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ritu / Serza</td>
<td>Anon(ymous)</td>
<td>Kiara Pipino</td>
<td>University of Arkansas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marty</td>
<td>Circle Mirror</td>
<td>Michael</td>
<td>University of Arkansas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bet</td>
<td>Imogen (World Premiere)</td>
<td>Bob Stevenson</td>
<td>Theatre@UA Fort Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edith</td>
<td>Jake’s Women</td>
<td>Josh Smith</td>
<td>Theatre@UA Fort Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benvolio</td>
<td>Romeo and Juliet</td>
<td>Bob Stevenson</td>
<td>Theatre@UA Fort Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Becca</td>
<td>Aurora (World Premiere)</td>
<td>Bob Stevenson</td>
<td>Theatre@UA Fort Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chorus / Acrobat</td>
<td>Corrigenda (World</td>
<td>Bob Stevenson</td>
<td>Theatre@UA Fort Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eileen</td>
<td>The Cripple of Inishmaan</td>
<td>Ian Miller</td>
<td>Theatre@UA Fort Smith</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Education

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Play</th>
<th>Company</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M.F.A.</td>
<td>Theatre—Acting</td>
<td>University of Arkansas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B.A.</td>
<td>Theatre—Acting/Directing</td>
<td>University of Arkansas Fort Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Training</td>
<td>Shakespeare (On Scholarship)</td>
<td>American Shakespeare Center</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Training


Skills

WORKS CITED

APPENDIX A.1

Email Correspondence with Rob Sutton

USE OF HEADSHOT IN THESIS
2 messages

Debbie Banos <d.banos@gmail.com>
To: Rob Sutton <r.sutton@gmail.com>

Mon, May 12, 2014 at 1:26 PM

Hello Rob,
This is Debbie Banos. You took lovely headshots of me last spring and I was hoping that you would give me permission to use the photos you took as a part of my thesis to complete my M.F.A. Would you give me permission? I would very much appreciate it.
Debbie.

Rob Sutton <r.sutton@gmail.com>
To: Debbie Banos <d.banos@gmail.com>

Mon, May 12, 2014 at 1:27 PM

Of course my love!!!

Sent from my iPhone

[Quoted text hidden]