

ERIC FRAISHER HAYES

Artistic Director/ Stage and Film Director/Instructor/Scholar

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Artistic Director

Eugene O'Neill Foundation, Tao House, 2008-Present, Artistic Director, Board Member

- Provide creative vision for year-round artistic programming for the Eugene O'Neill National Historic Site at Tao House.
- Manage traveling productions of EONF Tao House shows in Ireland, St. Louis, and Boston.
- Lead expansion of artistic programming into the digital realm (filmed and virtual.) Directed and produced feature length films of O'Neill's *Beyond the Horizon* and *Welded*, series of eleven short films entitled *Ghosts of Tao House* and multiple live events with authors and artists.
- Produce and manage budgets for all productions.
- Hire and manage all creative personnel including directors, designers and actors.
- Built and maintain a large network of talented Bay Area theatre artists that collaborate on artistic projects year-round.
- Expanded the Eugene O'Neill Festival from a single weekend event into a popular, month-long festival featuring multiple thematically related theatre productions as well as concerts, lectures, and opportunities for community engagement.
- Forged partnerships with international, national, and local community organizations including the Co. Wexford's O'Neill Ancestral Trust, Eugene O'Neill International Festival of Theatre of New Ross, Ireland, Washington University in St. Louis, U.S. National Park Service, Mechanics Institute of San Francisco, Museum of the San Ramon Valley and the Lafayette Library to build international ties, broaden the reach of EONF, and enrich the cultural life of the San Francisco Bay Area.
- Provide art direction for marketing materials. Write marketing copy and direct photo shoots.
- Built a network of scholars who provide their expertise to enhance our audience's depth of understanding and appreciation for our play productions.

- Transformed Danville CA into the leading producer of plays of Eugene O’Neill in the United States.

Role Players Ensemble 2010-2019, Artistic Director

- Provided a creative vision for RPE’s four play seasons.
- Hired and managed all creative personnel, which included directors, designers, stage managers, crew and actors.
- Created and managed production budgets.
- Acted as liaison between the creative and administrative branches of the theatre.
- Provided art direction for marketing materials, including writing copy and directing photo shoots.
- Represented RPE at public and private functions to further the interests and vision of the theater, raise funds, and build community relationships.
- Developed a broader audience base through public outreach presentations, including creating and presenting the popular “sneak peek” series at local libraries, and teaching adult theater education classes.

Film/Virtual Direction (2020-2023)

Ghosts of Tao House 2023 (Series)	Eugene O’Neill Foundation	Danville, CA (2023)
Welded	Eugene O’Neill Foundation	Danville, CA (2023)
<i>Fog</i>	National Park Service	Danville, CA (2022)
<i>Welded</i>	Eugene O’Neill Foundation	Danville, CA (2022)
<i>Beyond the Horizon</i>	Eugene O’Neill Festival	Danville, CA (2021)
<i>Ghosts of Tao House (Series)</i>	Eugene O’Neill Foundation	Danville, CA (2021)
<i>Shell Shock</i>	Metropolitan Playhouse	New York, NY (2020)
<i>Abortion</i>	Eugene O’Neill Festival	Danville, CA (2020)
<i>Recklessness</i>	Eugene O’Neill Festival	Danville, CA (2020)

<i>The Web</i>	Eugene O’Neill Festival	Danville, CA (2020)
<i>The Show Must Go Online</i>	Children’s Theatre of Palo Alto	Palo Alto, CA (2020)

Stage Direction-Eugene O’Neill

<i>“Anna Christie”</i>	International O’Neill Festival	New Ross, Ireland (2023)
<i>“Anna Christie”</i>	Eugene O’Neill Festival	Danville, CA (2023)
<i>Shell Shock</i>	International O’Neill Festival	New Ross, Ireland (2022)
<i>Welded</i>	International O’Neill Festival	New Ross, Ireland (2022)
<i>A Moon for the Misbegotten</i>	Eugene O’Neill Festival	Danville, CA (2022)
<i>Welded</i>	Eugene O’Neill Foundation	Danville, CA (2022)
<i>Beyond the Horizon</i>	Eugene O’Neill Festival	Danville, CA (2021)
<i>Long Day’s Journey Into Night</i>	International O’Neill Festival	New Ross, Ireland (2019)
<i>Long Day’s Journey Into Night</i>	Eugene O’Neill Festival	Danville, CA (2019)
<i>Hughie</i>	International O’Neill Festival	New Ross, Ireland (2018)
<i>Hughie</i>	Eugene O’Neill Festival	Danville, CA (2018)
<i>The Emperor Jones</i>	Eugene O’Neill Festival	Danville, CA (2016)
<i>The Iceman Cometh</i>	Eugene O’Neill Festival	Danville, CA (2014)
<i>A Touch of the Poet</i>	Eugene O’Neill Festival	Danville, CA (2017)
<i>Desire Under the Elms</i>	Eugene O’Neill Festival	Danville, CA (2015)
<i>Chris Christophersen</i>	Eugene O’Neill Festival	Danville, CA (2013)
<i>Ah, Wilderness!</i>	Eugene O’Neill Festival	Danville, CA (2012)
<i>Mourning Becomes Electra</i>	Eugene O’Neill Festival	Danville, CA (2011)
<i>The Hairy Ape</i>	Eugene O’Neill Festival	Danville, CA (2010)
<i>All God’s Chillun Got Wings</i>	Eugene O’Neill Festival	Danville, CA (2008)

Stage Direction-San Francisco Bay Area (2004-Present)

<i>A Life in the Theatre</i>	Livermore Shakespeare	Livermore, CA
<i>The Piano Lesson</i>	Role Players Ensemble	Danville, CA

<i>Good People</i>	Role Players Ensemble	Danville, CA
<i>A Doll's House</i>	St. Mary's College	Moraga, CA
<i>Macbeth</i>	Holy Names University	Oakland, CA
<i>The Great Gatsby</i>	Role Players Ensemble	Danville, CA
<i>Requiem for a Heavyweight</i>	Role Players Ensemble	Danville, CA
<i>Incident at Vichy</i>	Role Players Ensemble	Danville, CA
<i>The Member of the Wedding</i>	Douglas Morrisson Theatre	Hayward, CA
<i>Of Mice and Men</i>	Role Players Ensemble	Danville, CA
<i>Doubt</i>	California Conservatory Theatre	San Leandro, CA
<i>Laughing Stock</i>	Role Players Ensemble	Danville, CA
<i>The Ladies' Man</i>	Role Players Ensemble	Danville, CA
<i>Ruddigore</i>	Role Players Ensemble	Danville, CA
<i>The Mikado</i>	Role Players Ensemble	Danville, CA
<i>Laura</i>	Role Players Ensemble	Danville, CA
<i>27 Wagons Full of Cotton</i>	Role Players Ensemble	San Ramon, CA
<i>The Case of the Crushed Petunias</i>	Role Players Ensemble	San Ramon, CA
<i>The Lion in Winter</i>	Role Players Ensemble	Danville, CA
<i>Harvey</i>	Chanticleers	Castro Valley, CA
<i>Pinocchio</i>	New Conservatory Theatre	San Francisco, CA
<i>Screwtape</i>	Peace Players	Danville, CA (1991)

Stage Direction-New Work (2009-Present)

<i>Into Night</i>	Eugene O'Neill Foundation	Boston, CA
<i>Animal Farm</i> (Original Adaptation)	Role Players Ensemble	Danville, CA
<i>The Harrow</i>	ArcLight Rep	San Jose, CA
<i>A Cup of Joe, a Glass of OJ</i>	ArcLight Rep	San Jose, CA
<i>The Restoration</i>	ArcLight Rep	San Jose, CA
<i>Tough Love</i>	J&L Center Stage	Walnut Creek, CA
<i>Faceted</i>	Bindlepunks	San Jose, CA
<i>Pavlov's Visit to Schrodinger's World</i>	Bindlepunks	San Jose, CA

Stage Direction-Youth (2004-Present)

<i>Macbeth</i>	I Can Do That Theatre Company	Danville, CA
<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>	I Can Do That Theatre Company	Danville, CA
<i>Seussical</i>	Solano College (SYT)	Fairfield, CA
<i>Taming of the Shrew</i>	Solano College (SYT)	Fairfield, CA
<i>Cinderella</i>	Solano College (SYT)	Fairfield, CA
<i>1000 Cranes</i>	Children's Theatre of Palo Alto	Palo Alto, CA
<i>Treasure Island</i>	Children's Theatre of Palo Alto	Palo Alto, CA
<i>Adventures of a Comic Book Artist</i>	Children's Theatre of Palo Alto	Palo Alto, CA
<i>Why the Sun and the Moon are in the Sky</i>	Children's Theatre of Palo Alto	Palo Alto, CA
<i>The Tempest</i>	Cal Shakes Summer Program	Berkeley, CA
<i>Macbeth</i>	Cal Shakes Summer Program	Berkeley, CA
<i>Julius Caesar</i>	Cal Shakes Summer Program	Berkeley, CA
<i>A Midsummer's Night Dream</i>	Cal Shakes Summer Program	Berkeley, CA
<i>Much Ado about Nothing</i>	Cal Shakes Summer Program	Lafayette, CA
<i>Guys and Dolls</i>	Solano College (SYT)	Fairfield, CA
<i>Hamlet</i>	Solano College (SYT)	Fairfield, CA
<i>Macbeth</i>	Solano College (SYT)	Fairfield, CA
<i>Romeo and Juliet</i>	Solano College (SYT)	Fairfield, CA
<i>A Christmas Carol</i>	Solano College (SYT)	Fairfield, CA
<i>The Little Mermaid</i>	Solano College (SYT)	Fairfield, CA
<i>Pinocchio</i>	Solano College (SYT)	Fairfield, CA
<i>Peter Pan</i>	Solano College (SYT)	Fairfield, CA
<i>The Comedy of Errors</i>	Cal Shakes Outreach	Berkeley, CA
<i>Romeo and Juliet</i>	Cal Shakes Outreach	Berkeley, CA
<i>Jungle Book</i>	Peninsula Youth Theatre	Mountain View, CA
<i>Charlotte's Web</i>	Peninsula Youth Theatre	Mountain View, CA
<i>The Rover</i>	New Conservatory Theatre	San Francisco, CA
<i>Macbeth</i>	New Conservatory Theatre	San Francisco, CA

<i>The Crucible</i>	New Conservatory Theatre	San Francisco, CA
<i>Aladdin</i>	Playhouse West	Walnut Creek, CA
<i>Legend of Sleepy Hollow</i>	Playhouse West	Walnut Creek, CA
<i>Stuart Little</i>	Playhouse West	Walnut Creek, CA
<i>The Tempest</i>	San Francisco Shakespeare	San Francisco, CA
<i>Romeo and Juliet</i>	San Francisco Shakespeare	San Francisco, CA
<i>Twelfth Night</i>	San Francisco Shakespeare	San Francisco, CA
<i>Oliver Twist</i>	New Conservatory Theatre	San Francisco, CA
<i>Cinderella</i>	New Conservatory Theatre	San Francisco, CA
<i>Puss in Boots</i>	New Conservatory Theatre	San Francisco, CA
<i>The Frog Prince Continued</i>	Mary Ellen's Big Tents	El Cerrito, CA
<i>Flowers for Algernon</i>	Moraga Playhouse	Moraga, CA (1992)
<i>The Comedy of Errors</i>	Moraga Playhouse	Moraga, CA (1992)
<i>Juvie</i>	Moraga Playhouse	Moraga, CA (1991)
<i>The Twelve Days of Christmas</i>	Moraga Playhouse	Moraga, CA (1991)

Film & Television Direction (2004-2008)

<i>The Magic Paintbox</i>	PuppARTry Productions	San Jose, CA
<i>The Administration's Case for War</i>	UNSCUM Films	Chicago, IL
<i>The Laundry Cycle</i>	New Conservatory Productions	San Francisco, CA

Staged Reading Direction

Warnings Before Breakfast by Eugene O'Neill, Eugene O'Neill Foundation, (January 2024)

The First Man by Eugene O'Neill, Washington University in St. Louis, October 2023

The First Man by Eugene O'Neill, Eugene O'Neill Foundation, January 2023

The Second Girl by Ronan Noone, Eugene O'Neill Foundation, August 2019

The Great God Brown by Eugene O'Neill, Eugene O'Neill Foundation, January 2019

Days Without End by Eugene O'Neill, Eugene O'Neill Foundation, January 2018

Honky by Greg Kalleres, Role Players Ensemble, June 2017

The Rescue by Rita Creighton Smith, Eugene O'Neill Foundation, May 2017

Dynamo by Eugene O'Neill, Eugene O'Neill Foundation, January 2017

Terra Nova by Ted Tally, Role Players Ensemble, October 2016

Bound East for Cardiff by Eugene O'Neill, Eugene O'Neill Foundation, July 2016
Beyond the Horizon, by Eugene O'Neill, Eugene O'Neill Foundation, January 2016
Hughie by Eugene O'Neill, Eugene O'Neill Foundation, January 2015
Tassajara 1964 by Eric Fraisher Hayes, Airship to Future, May 2014
All The Worlds Are Stages by Ruben Grijalva, Playground, March 2014
Attention Must Be Paid by Patricia Cotter, Eugene O'Neill Foundation, January 2014
Dibs on the Scotty Dog by Katie May, Eugene O'Neill Foundation, January 2014
So Much History by Robin Lynn Rodriguez, Eugene O'Neill Foundation, January 2014
Significant People by Amy Sass, Eugene O'Neill Foundation, January 2014
Spring Cleaning by Rubin Grivalja, Eugene O'Neill Foundation, January 2014
What Doesn't Kill You by Diane Gribshaw, Eugene O'Neill Foundation, January 2014
Only Forever by Karen Macklin, Eugene O'Neill Foundation, January 2014
A Girls' Night Out by Stephany Kim, Eugene O'Neill Foundation, January 2014
More Stately Mansions by Eugene O'Neill, Eugene O'Neill Foundation, January 2013
The Straw by Eugene O'Neill, Eugene O'Neill Foundation Playwrights Theatre, January 2012
Wasting Away by Mercedes Segesvary, PlayGround, November 2011
Goulash by Mercedes Segesvary, PlayGround, February 2011
The Long Voyage Home by Eugene O'Neill, Eugene O'Neill Foundation, January 2011
Bound East for Cardiff by Eugene O'Neill, Eugene O'Neill Foundation, January 2011
In the Zone by Eugene O'Neill, Eugene O'Neill Foundation, January 2011

Eddie Rex by Tom Swift, Eugene O'Neill Foundation Playwrights Theatre, May 2010
Misanthropomorphization by Daniel Heath, Eugene O'Neill Foundation Playwrights Theatre, May 2010
The Audition by Alex Moggridge, Eugene O'Neill Foundation Playwrights Theatre, May 2010
Between the Lines by Ignacio Zuluetta, Eugene O'Neill Foundation Playwrights Theatre, May 2010
A Touch of the Poet by Eugene O'Neill, Eugene O'Neill Foundation Playwrights Theatre, January 2010
The Audition by Alex Moggridge, Playground, November 2009
Coriolanus by William Shakespeare, Subterranean Shakespeare, September 2009
Martin Eden by Jack London adapt. by David Koppel, ArcLight Rep, August 2009
Shell Shock by Eugene O'Neill, Eugene O'Neill Foundation Playwrights Theatre, May 2009
The Movie Man by Eugene O'Neill, Eugene O'Neill Foundation Playwrights Theatre, May 2009
The Sniper by Eugene O'Neill, Eugene O'Neill Foundation Playwrights Theatre, May 2009
Ezekiel's Wheel by, Ross Peter Nelson, City Lights Theater, April 2009
Old Pain by Richard Medugno, City Lights Theater, April 2009
Sweet Fulfillment by Brady Lea, Playground, March 2009
Infinitesimal by Lisa Ludden, Playground, February 2008

Double Takes by Crish Barth, Playground, November 2007

Experience Developing New Works

Warnings Before Breakfast, Adaptor, Director

Adapted two early Eugene O'Neill one-act plays *Warnings* (1913) and *Before Breakfast* (1916) into a single play. One play focuses on the experience of a man in crisis and the other a woman. By weaving the two stories into a single narrative, I endeavored to shed light on the underbelly of each play to help the two main characters and the audience have more empathy for all parties. Premiere January 2024 Museum of the San Ramon Valley, Danville, CA.

Into Night, Director

Worked with playwright and scholar William Davies King and a small group of actors over a nine-month period to develop the original script for the play *Into Night*. The play imagines the metaphysical intersection between fiction and reality that swirled under the roof of Tao House resulting in America's greatest drama *Long Day's Journey Into Night*. A workshop production traveled to Boston, MA to premiere at the Boston Playwrights Theatre as part of the 11th International Eugene O'Neill Conference in July 2022.

Hughie Adaptor, Director

During the year 2018, I worked with a dramaturg and three Bay Area actors to explore ways to work the rich text in Eugene O'Neill's stage directions into the action of the play. Ultimately, the devise of creating a third character out of the stage directions yielded a re-imagined production of Eugene O'Neill's one-act play. Our process consisted of a couple of week-long workshops, six weeks of rehearsal, two weeks of performances at the Eugene O'Neill National Historic Site (Tao House), and a tour of Ireland, highlighted by an International debut at the Eugene O'Neill International Festival of Theatre in New Ross, Ireland.

Tassajara 1964 Writer, Producer, Director

Wrote, produced and directed an original docudrama honoring the 50th anniversary of a local tragedy. On May 7, 1964, Pacific Air flight 773 crashed in the Danville Hills after a passenger fatally shot the pilots. This event marked the first in-flight disaster of its kind and triggered a national media storm, an FBI investigation, and an ill-fated movement for heightened aviation safety. *Tassajara 1964* tells the story of the passengers of Flight 773, their families, and the public reaction to this historic tragedy. Produced in Danville, CA 2014.

Animal Farm Adaptor, Director

Adapted George Orwell's book *Animal Farm* into a stage play. After studying various stage adaptations of Orwell's book and finding these portrayals static, I set about to break the story

into chapters and then create the most action-oriented approach to telling the story of each chapter. My goal was to show the audience the story, not tell it. A great deal of dialogue was created to activate the scenes and I used Benjamin the donkey as the guide to the story. I collaborated with local visual artist John Osborne to create an original aesthetic for the set and masks created for the show. Produced in Danville, CA in 2018.

PlayGround 2004-Present Company Member, Education Coordinator

PlayGround is a playwright centered theatre company based in San Francisco. It is committed to the development of new works. As a company member, I have directed or acted in dozens of these works. Besides my creative contributions to the company, I have served as the Education Coordinator for the company overseeing administration of the Young Playwrights Project contest for three years.

Chicago Play Development 1998-2001 Actor

As an actor, I participated in the development of three world premieres: *The Crime of the Century* by Rebecca Gilman for Circle Theatre, *Among the Thugs* by Tom Szentgyorgyi for Next Theatre and the Goodman, and *Warhawks and Lindbergs* by Jim McDermott for Shattered Globe Theatre. In each production, I explored the story through improvisation, worked through rewrites to the material, and engaged in additional activities to help the writer and director find the vision for that play.

Acting Experience

I am a member of the Actors Equity Association with over twenty-five years of acting experience. Classical theater credits include Chicago Shakespeare, and the Wisconsin and Colorado Shakespeare Festivals. I have performed in professional theatres in California, Wisconsin, Indiana, Colorado, and Illinois. Chicago credits include the Goodman, Next Theatre, Circle Theatre, Shattered Globe, Northlight, and Steppenwolf. San Francisco Bay Area credits include the Magic, Best of PlayGround, Playhouse West, and AlterTheater.

Teaching Experience

I have 20 years of experience teaching theatre arts. I have developed curriculum for courses of study including basic acting, advanced acting, directing, improvisation, stage combat and script analysis. Class sizes have ranged from 3 to 60 students and students have ranged in age from 6 to 80. I have generally taught for youth programs but have also taught adults through programs like the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute and local libraries. Teaching credits include Solano College Youth Theatre, Children's Theatre of Palo Alto, New Conservatory Theatre, and California Shakespeare Theater.

Children’s Theatre of Palo Alto	Instructor and Director	2014- <i>Present</i>
I Can Do That Theatre Company	Instructor	2020- <i>Present</i>
Solano College Youth Theatre	Instructor and Director	2006-2012
California Shakespeare Theater	Instructor and Director	2006-2011
New Conservatory Theatre	Instructor and Director	2005-2007

Publications and Presentations

- “Pandemic Pivot: The Birth of Tao House Films,” *Eugene O’Neill Review* 44.2 (2023), 169-178.
- “Eugene O’Neill: 51 Plays in 51 Minutes,” a Theatrical Lecture, Eugene O’Neill International Conference, Boston, MA, July 2022.
- “Welded 2022: A Conversation,” Practitioners’ Colloquium, *Eugene O’Neill Review* 43.2 (2022), 172-182.
- “Unlikely Temple: Building a Theater at Tao House,” *Eugene O’Neill Review* 42.2 (2021), 166-181.
- Review of *Long Day’s Journey Into Night*, *Eugene O’Neill Review* 41.2 (2020), 226-229.
- “*Days Without End: A Living Director’s Take*,” *Directing O’Neill: Five Recent Productions*, *Eugene O’Neill Review* 40.2 (2019), 230-232.
- “An Argument for the Third Voice: Reimagining Eugene O’Neill’s *Hughie*,” *Eugene O’Neill Review* 40.1 (2019), 68-86.
- “Arthur Miller and Eugene O’Neill: What We Owe Each Other,” Comparative Drama Conference, Orlando, FL, April 2019.
- “Eugene O’Neill Festival: Miller and O’Neill, Passing the Torch,” American Literature Association Annual Conference, San Francisco, CA, May 2018.
- “Producing the Unproduceable Plays of Eugene O’Neill,” Eugene O’Neill International Conference, Galway, Ireland, July 2017.
- “*Ah, Wilderness!* and *Long Day’s Journey Into Night*,” A Noise Within Theatre Company, Pasadena, CA, March 2017.
- “Eugene O’Neill: Evolution of an Artist,” Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Ashland OR, June 2015.

Education

- Master of Fine Arts, Acting, 1996, The Theatre School, DePaul University
- Bachelor of Arts, English, 1990, University of California at Santa Barbara
- Folio Technique with Kate Buckley, Chicago
- Script Analysis with Peter Forster, Chicago
- Advanced Auditioning for Film and Television with Peter Forster, Chicago
- Advanced Scene Study, CCPA, with MaryAnn Thebus, Chicago
- Basic Organic Improvisation, Players Workshop, with Steve Roath, Chicago
- Advanced Acting, A.C.T., with Dick Butterfield, San Francisco
- Movement, A.C.T., with Leticia Bartlett, San Francisco
- Lincoln Center Director's Lab West 2006, Pasadena, CA

Affiliations

- Board of Directors, Eugene O'Neill Foundation at Tao House, 2008-Present
- Board of Directors, Eugene O'Neill Society, 2023-Present
- Company Member, PlayGround Theatre Company, 2004-Present
- Member, Actor's Equity Association, 2001-Present