

# MARIE KOHLER

PLAYWRIGHT · DIRECTOR · JOURNALIST

She / Her / Hers

“Artist of the Year” Milwaukee Arts Board, 2005

“Friend of the Arts” Milwaukee Arts Board, 2020

Wisconsin Academy Fellows Award, 2024

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## PLAYWRIGHT

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RESIDENT PLAYWRIGHT – Renaissance Theaterworks, Milwaukee, WI, 1993-2018

### FULL-LENGTH PLAYS:

#### MAYBE WE’LL FLY, AT THE WITCH HOUSE

Readings Warehouse Art Museum as part of World Premiere Wisconsin, Milwaukee, WI – 2023  
Workshops Two Crows Theatre, Spring Green, WI – 2020

#### BOSWELL

Produced 59E59 Theaters, New York City, NY – 2022  
Edinburgh Festival Fringe, Edinburgh, Scotland – 2019  
Readings Heartland Theatre Company, Normal, IL – 2019  
University of Wisconsin-Parkside, Kenosha, WI – 2017  
American Players Theater, Spring Green, WI – 2020

#### THE DIG

Produced Third Avenue Playhouse, Sturgeon Bay, WI – 2019  
Renaissance Theaterworks, Milwaukee, WI – 2009  
Readings Third Avenue Playhouse, Sturgeon Bay, WI – 2018  
Taliesin, Spring Green, WI – 2008  
(Act I) Playwrights’ Center, Minneapolis, MN – 2007  
Workshops Sewanee Writers’ Conference, Sewanee, TN – 2007  
(Act I) Madison Repertory Theatre, Madison, WI – 2005  
Awards Playwrights’ Center Lab, Finalist – 2009  
Playwrights First, Semi-Finalist – 2009  
Susan Smith Blackburn Prize, Nominee – 2009

#### A GIRL OF THE LIMBERLOST

Produced Rogue Theater, Sturgeon Bay, WI – 2019  
Children’s Theater of Madison, WI – 1993  
Reading First Stage Children’s Theater, Milwaukee, WI – 2017  
Awards Julie Harris Playwright Award, Beverly Hills Theatre Guild,  
Honorable Mention – 2014

#### MIDNIGHT AND MOLL FLANDERS

Produced The Burlington Players, Burlington, MA – 2023  
University of Wisconsin-Parkside, Kenosha, WI – 2018  
Renaissance Theaterworks/University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee – 2000  
Readings University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN – 2018  
University of Wisconsin-Parkside, Kenosha, WI – 2016  
Milwaukee Chamber Theatre/Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI – 1998

# PLAYWRIGHT

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## FULL-LENGTH PLAYS (cont'd):

### MIDNIGHT AND MOLL FLANDERS (cont'd)

- Workshops Milwaukee Repertory Theater, Milwaukee, WI – 1996  
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Milwaukee, WI – 1997
- Awards Best New Play, Milwaukee Magazine – 2000  
Inkslinger Playwriting Competition, Semifinalist – 2018

### WITCH HOUSE

- Readings Milwaukee Repertory Theater, Milwaukee, WI – 2015  
Carthage College, Kenosha, WI – 2015  
Milwaukee Repertory Theater, Milwaukee, WI – 2016
- Awards Todd Mc Nerney Playwriting Award, Finalist – 2017  
Wisconsin Wrights New Play Festival, Finalist – 2017

### BOSWELL'S DREAMS

- Produced Renaissance Theaterworks, Milwaukee, WI – 2005
- Readings International Centre for Women Playwrights Festival, Chicago, IL – 2007  
Renaissance Theaterworks, Milwaukee, WI – 2004
- Workshops Renaissance Theaterworks, Milwaukee, WI – 2003, 2004
- Awards Abingdon Award, Finalist – 2005  
Wisconsin Wrights, Finalist – 2005  
Best of the Year, Milwaukee Magazine – 2005  
Susan Smith Blackburn Prize, Nominee – 2005

### COUNTING DAYS

- Produced Renaissance Theaterworks, Milwaukee, WI – 1995
- Readings Avenue Theatre, NJ – 2006  
American Theater Company, Chicago, IL – 2001  
Chicago Dramatists, Chicago, IL – 1997  
Victory Gardens Theatre, Chicago, IL – 1997
- Awards Best New Regional Play, American Theatre Critics Association – 1995  
New Play Festival, Charlotte Repertory Theatre, Finalist – 1995  
Susan Smith Blackburn Prize, Nominee – 1995

## SHORT PLAYS:

### THAT BLASTED TRIAL

- Produced Iowa State University, Ames, IA – 2017  
Out of the Fire – The Banned Books Monologue Festival, Forward Theater Company, Madison, WI – 2014 (Commissioned)

### THE BACKPACK

- Produced 24/7, Spring Green, WI – 2008

### THE TRENCH

- Produced Combat Theatre, Milwaukee, WI – 2011

### THE PHOTOGRAPH

- Produced Milwaukee Repertory Theater, Milwaukee, WI – 2020 (Commissioned)

## DIRECTOR

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### PRODUCED PLAYS DIRECTED:

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| <b>OLD COMISKEY PARK</b><br>by Peter Filichia       | Within These Walls Monologue Festival, Forward Theater Co.,<br>Madison, WI – 2021 |
| <b>HAPPY DAYS</b><br>by Samuel Beckett              | Renaissance Theaterworks, Milwaukee, WI – 2020                                    |
| <b>DEAR ELIZABETH</b><br>by Sarah Ruhl              | Milwaukee Chamber Theatre, Milwaukee, WI – 2015                                   |
| <b>THE KREUTZER SONATA</b><br>by Nancy Harris       | Renaissance Theaterworks, Milwaukee, WI – 2015                                    |
| <b>HONOUR</b><br>by Joanna Murray-Smith             | Renaissance Theaterworks, Milwaukee, WI – 2012                                    |
| <b>A PHOENIX TOO FREQUENT</b><br>by Christopher Fry | Renaissance Theaterworks, Milwaukee, WI – 2002                                    |

### PLAY READINGS & WORKSHOPS DIRECTED:

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| <b>THE CHILDREN</b><br>By Lucy Kirkwood                      | Reading (via Zoom), Third Avenue Playhouse, Sturgeon Bay, WI – 2021                             |
| <b>ARTIST</b><br>By Marie Kohler                             | Workshop, Two Crows Theatre, Spring Green, WI – 2020  |
| <b>DUCK</b><br>by Christine Kallmann                         | Reading, St. John's on the Lake, Milwaukee, WI – 2017   |
| <b>DUCK</b><br>by Christine Kallmann                         | Workshop & Reading, Br!nk New Plays Festival, Renaissance Theaterworks,<br>Milwaukee, WI – 2016 |
| <b>TRIFLES</b><br>by Susan Glaspell                          | Reading, American Players Theatre, Spring Green, WI – 2016                                      |
| <b>FOG</b><br>by Eugene O'Neill                              | Reading, American Players Theatre, Spring Green, WI – 2016                                      |
| <b>CENSORED ON FINAL APPROACH</b><br>by Phylis Ravel         | Reading, Renaissance Theaterworks / Women Veterans Program,<br>Milwaukee, WI – 2013             |
| <b>BUS STOP</b><br>by William Inge                           | Reading, Renaissance Theaterworks, Milwaukee, WI – 2008   |
| <b>THE IMPORTANCE OF<br/>BEING EARNEST</b><br>by Oscar Wilde | Reading, Renaissance Theaterworks, Milwaukee, WI – 2005   |

## RELATED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

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### **Renaissance Theaterworks (Milwaukee, WI)**

Co-Founder, 1993

Co-Artistic Director, 1993-2012

Resident Playwright, 1993-2018

### **Wisconsin Humanities Council**

Board Member, 2014-2020

### **College of Arts & Humanities, UW-Parkside (Kenosha, WI)**

Advisory Board Member, 2020-present

### **Freelance Dramaturg, 1995-present**

#### **Milwaukee Repertory Theater (Milwaukee, WI)**

Dramaturgical Intern, 1994-1995

#### **New Plays from the Heartland Festival (Normal, IL)**

Guest Playwright, 2018

#### **Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival**

Guest Playwright Respondent, 2006

Guest Director Respondent, 2016

### **Freelance Journalist, 1980-present**

Publications include *American Theatre*, *National Trust Magazine*, *The Wisconsin Academy Review*, *Milwaukee Magazine*, *Shepherd Express*, *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, *Milwaukee Footlights*, *Great Lakes Stages*, *Art Muscle*, *Milwaukee Metro*

## EDUCATION:

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### **Harvard University**

BA English Literature – magna cum laude (summa cum laude thesis)

### **University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee**

MA English Literature

## PROFESSIONAL TRAINING:

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Directors Workshop I – The Barrow Group, New York City – 2017

## AFFILIATIONS:

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Dramatists Guild

Chicago Dramatists

The Playwrights' Center

Actors' Equity Association

Wisconsin Society of Arts and Letters

Wisconsin Humanities Council

University of Wisconsin-Parkside School of Arts & Humanities