

Bessie Zolno

Violence, Intimacy, and Movement Choreographer

(510) 435-5409/ bzolno2@gmail.com

bessiezolno.com

Choreography Experience

Dryland	Intimacy Director	Sonja Pardee	Columbia College Chicago
Stop Kiss	Assistant Intimacy Director (Gaby Labotka)	Kanome Jones	Arc Productions
The Sound*	Violence/ Intimacy Director	Tadgh Murphy	Columbia College Chicago
How to Destroy an American Girl Doll	Violence/ Intimacy Director	Daisy Morrey	Columbia College Chicago
House of Joy*	Assistant Fight Director (Dave Maier)	Megan Sandberg-Zakian	California Shakespeare Theater
A Man of No Importance	Assistant Fight/ Intimacy Director	Jermaine Hill	Studio 404
Pippin	Fight Director	Jordan Richardson	Windy City Conservatory
Once More with Feeling	Dance Choreographer	Jenna Stein-Corman	Z Players
99 Years*	Dance Choreographer	Ena Dallas	OakTechRep

*World Premiere

Teaching Experience

Intimacy For The Actor	Teaching Assistant	John MacFarland	Columbia College Chicago
Fight Like A Girl (Broadsword)	Co Teacher	Kitty Thompson	Shakespeare
Teen Class (Broadsword, R/D)	Teaching Assistant	Dave Maier	California Shakespeare
SC 2: Unarmed, R/D, Broadsword	Teaching Assistant	John MacFarland	Columbia College Chicago
Single Rapier	Teaching Assistant	Dave Maier	SF Opera Main Chorus
Various Weapons	Teaching Assistant	Dave Maier	SF Opera Adler Fellowship
Basic Unarmed	Lead Teacher		Center Stage Productions

30+ Child and Teen Theater Classes and Camps as Lead and Assistant Teacher with Kids N' Dance, Windy City Conservatory, Center Stage Productions, and Emerald City Theatre Company (Teaching Resume available upon request)

Certifications and Certificates

SAFD Certifications- Recommended Pass: Broadsword, Unarmed 5/19, Basic Pass: Rapier Dagger 5/19, Knife, Small Sword, Sword and Shield 12/19, Theatrical Firearms 1/20

BASSC Certifications: Unarmed, Rapier Dagger, Broadsword 5/19

Dueling Arts International Certifications- Unarmed 7/19

Chicago Flyhouse Flight and Operation Certification 9/19

Heartland Intimacy Director's Certificate 7/21

Mental Health First Aid Certification 8/19

Intimacy and Related Training

3 Day Intensive 7/19 Claire Warden, Marie Percy, Maya Herbsman – Intimacy Director's International/ Cutting Ball

3 Day Intensive- 5/19- Tonia Sina, Siobhan Richardson, Claire Warden- Intimacy Director's International/York University

Intimacy Direction and Covid 19 Virtual Workshop- Claire Warden 7/20

Combat and Related Training

Apprentice to Dave Maier (Dueling Arts Theatrical Combat Instructor and Fight Director): Summer 2019-SF Opera, Magic Theater, Shotgun Players, California Shakespeare Theatre

Columbia College Chicago: History of Weapons and Martial Styles (David Woolley), Vocal Extremes Workshop (John MacFarland)

Other Training/ Performance Experience

Education-BA Musical Theatre Performance, minor in Stage Combat Columbia College Chicago 2020

Performance Experience -Performed in over 40 productions and workshops in the San Francisco Bay Area and Chicago. Participated in numerous dance concerts and vocal recitals. Nominated for five regional SF Bay Area Broadway World Awards in 2015 and 2016; won for Best Leading Actress in a Play (2015).