

NATHANIEL SHAW

Artistic Director. Director. Choreographer. Educator.

Proud Member of SDC + AEA

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EXPERIENCE

Producing Artistic Director. Firehouse Theatre. Richmond VA 7/1/23-present

www.firehousetheatre.org

Provides executive and artistic leadership for RVA's leading developer and producer of new plays and adventurous theatrical content. Leads fund development and doubled organizational revenue over first two seasons, increasing contributed revenue, grant revenue, and overseeing a 500% increase in admission revenue. More than doubled board participation and significantly expanded the staffing model. Increased partnerships through expanding the resident company model and increasing off-site productions.

Artistic Director. The Firehouse Theatre. Richmond VA. 2023

www.firehousetheatre.org

Oversaw the merger of The New Theatre and The Firehouse Theatre – guided the merger of the two organizations based upon shared and agreed upon, board approved strategic priorities. Oversaw planning, fundraising, and execution for the naming of THE CAROL PIERSOL STAGE and the associated venue improvements and production technology upgrades.

Executive Artistic Director. The New Theatre. Richmond VA. 2021-23

www.thenewtheatrerva.org

Founding Artistic Director of transmedia theatre company, devoted to advancing artform and industry through the development of new plays and musicals, premieres and early productions, and reinvigorated and reimaged revivals.

Artistic Director. Virginia Repertory Theatre. Richmond VA. 2016-2020.

www.virginiarep.org

Provided Artistic oversight of \$5.8 million operating budget (play selection, creative staffing, casting, etc.), fund development support (cultivation, grant writing, public speaking), marketing/PR support (TV and radio appearances, graphic and copy development), Board development (strategic planning, bi-monthly reporting, cultivation), management of 20+ person artistic/production staff. Ushered in Virginia Rep New Plays bringing the organization into collaboration with the Broadway producing and artistic community. Elevated dance and choreography in Signature programming. Increased investment in theatre technology.

Resident Choreographer. Once. Broadway + 1st National Tour. 2013-2014.

Maintained the quality and integrity of Steven Hoggett's Tony Award-nominated choreography.

Responsible for new cast member put-in's, understudy preparation, brush-up rehearsals, and noting the show. Traveled with director John Tiffany and music supervisor Martin Lowe to cast the first two international productions in South Korea and Australia.

Founding Artistic Director. The Active Theater. NYC NY. 2008-2014.

Founded and led off-off Broadway company devoted to innovative revivals of lesser-known contemporary plays and musicals, new play development, and affordable and collaborative training for actors. Collaborators included Greg Schaffert (producer), Marcia Milgrom Dodge (Tony Award-nominated director), Marc Robin (Artistic Director of the Fulton Theatre), Michael Unger (Artistic Director of Skylight Music Theatre), Act Two Playhouse and 59e59.

New Play Development Director. Glass Half Full Productions. 2013-2016.

www.glasshalffullproductions.co.uk

Responsible for identifying and developing new productions for Tony and Olivier Award-winning producer, Glass Half Full Productions. Provided critical feedback for productions and scripts in development. Attended readings, workshops, and off-Broadway seeking production opportunities and artistic collaboration.

DIRECTION AND CHOREOGRAPHY (selected)

Memories of Over-development (WP)	Director	The New Theatre at Firehouse (by Caridad Svich)
Touch	Director	59e59- Libra Theatre Company (w/Katrina Lenk)
Once	Dir/Chor	The Fulton + Va Rep (MD: J. Michael Zyglo)
Peter & Starcatcher	Dir/Chor	Va Rep, Firehouse (RTCC Award: Best Direction)
In the Heights	Director	Va Rep (RTCC Award: Best Direction)(Chor: Karla Garcia)
The Book of Will	Director	American Shakespeare Center (<i>cancelled – post covid</i>)
Curious Incident...	Dir/Chor	Va Rep (PROJECTIONS: Daniel Brodie)
The Violet Hour	Director	The Active Theater (1 st NYC revival)
West Side Story	Director	Va Rep (RTCC Award: Best Musical)
River Ditty (WP)	Director	Va Rep (PRODUCER: Glass Half Full Productions)
Cinderella	Choreographer	Phoenix Theater (DIR: Michael Barnard)
The Great Comet	Choreographer	Firehouse Theatre
Body Language (WP)	Director	The Active Theater (w/Christian Campbell & Lucy Owen)
The Great Comet	Choreographer	Firehouse Theatre
Lonely Planet	Director	5 th Wall Theatre + Firehouse Theatre
South Pacific	Dir/Chor	West Virginia Public (w/Jessica Lee Goldyn)
The Barber of Menville (USP)	Director	Firehouse Theatre (RTCC Award: Best Original Work)
Bridgeboy (WP)	Director	The Active Theater (SCENIC: Craig Napolielo)
The 39 Steps	Director	Va Rep
A Chorus Line (3x)	Director	Cortland Rep, Mt. Washington Valley, VCU
Damn Yankees	Dir/Chor	Forestburgh Playhouse (w/Jessica Lee Goldyn)
End of War (WP)	Director	Va Rep (SOUND: Julian Evans)
Hair	Dir/Chor	Mt. Washington Valley Theatre Company
Grease	Dir/Chor	Totem Pole Playhouse
...Spelling Bee	Dir/Chor	Mt. Washington Valley Theatre Company
Miracle. S. Division St.	Director	Cortland Rep

NEW PLAY DEVELOPMENT (selected)**As Director (lead development partner)**

- Safety by Irene Ziegler and John Winn (World Premiere musical Spring 2026)

- Memories of Overdevelopment by Caridad Svich (final revisions for World Premiere 2024)
- The Ugly Beer by Matthew Mooney Keuter (in development at Firehouse)
- The Barber of Merville by Roman Carr (revisions for US premiere)
- River Ditty by Matthew Mooney Keuter (WP at Virginia Rep 2018, optioned by Glass Half Full Productions)
- The Consoling Mechanism by Josh Franklin (NAMT Festival 2020, optioned by Apples and Oranges)
- The End of War by David L. Robbins (WP at Virginia Rep 2017)
- American Inheritance by Bob Stewart (optioned by Michael Rubenstein)
- Bridgeboy by Matthew Mooney Keuter (WP at The Active Theater 2011)
- Body Language by Jennie Contuzzi (WP at The Active Theater 2012)

As Artistic Director

- Out the Mud by Kristen Adele Calhoun (developmental premiere spring 2026)
- Lake Effect by Andrew Gall, directed by Paul Takács
- Witchduck by Eva DeVirgilis, directed by Rebecca Wahls (world premiere spring 2026)
- Roman à clef by Chandler Hubbard, directed by Sharon Ott
- The John Mitchell Jr. Project by Kristen Adele Calhoun, directed by Tiffany Nichole Greene (anticipated spring 2027)
- Lempicka by Matt Gould & Carson Kreitzer, Directed by Rachel Chavkin
- Atlantis by Matthew Lee Robinson, Ken Cerniglia, & Scott Anderson Morris, directed by Kristin Hanggi, Produced by Greg Schaffert & Glass Half Full Productions
- In My Chair by Eva DeVirgilis, Directed by Lisa Rothe

PERFORMANCE HISTORY (Selected)

Oklahoma!	Curly/Dream Curly	The Fulton (CHOR: Tyce Diorio)
A Chorus Line	Zach	NC Theatre (DIR: Mitzi Hamilton)
7 Brides for 7 Brothers	Caleb	Sacramento Music Circus (w/Jacquelyn Piro Donovan)
Damn Yankees	Joe Hardy	The Carousel (DIR: Marc Robin)
Footloose	Ren	Actors Playhouse
Oklahoma!	Will Parker	Lyric of OK (w/Kelli O'Hara & Will Chase)
Two Days of Grace	Adam	Edinburgh Fringe Festival
West Side Story	Riff	West Virginia Public
Annie	Rooster	Theatre by the Sea (DIR: Richard Sabellico)
Touch	Kyle	The Active Theater
The Full Monty	Jerry	Mt. Washington Valley Theatre Company
Godspell	Jesus	Mt. Washington Valley Theatre Company

Featured dancer with The Paul Taylor Dance Company (City Center, Lincoln Center, national and international touring)

TEACHING AND COACHING

- Masterclasses at Virginia Commonwealth University (Richmond, VA): audition technique, new play development, devised choreography, director/designer collaboration
- Randolph Macon College (Ashland, VA): acting and directing
- Co-Founder Demos/Shaw Coaching (NYC): audition technique and repertoire development
- Director/Choreographer at Fordham University (NYC): Legally Blonde
- Collegiate School Faculty (Richmond, VA): theatre
- Moving Youth Dance Company (Cranford, NJ): guest faculty-musical theatre

- Cadence Theatre, TRAIN (Richmond, VA): musical theatre
- The Active Theater: scene study

AWARDS AND HONORS

- Style Weekly Power List: Arts and Culture (Richmond, VA)
- Style Weekly 40 Under 40 Award (Richmond, VA)
- Richmond Theatre Critics Circle Awards: seven productions directed at Virginia Rep garnered 57 nominations and 14 RTCC Awards including BEST DIRECTOR (In the Heights) and BEST MUSICAL (In the Heights and West Side Story)
- RTCC Award: Outstanding Original Work (The Barber of Moville)
- NY Innovative Theatre Awards: Best Revival nomination (The Violet Hour)
- Syracuse Area Live Theatre Awards: Best Play nomination (Miracle on S. Division St.)
- New Hampshire Theatre Awards: Three productions directed at Mt. Washington Valley Theatre Company garnered twelve nominations including Best Musical (Hair), Best Direction (Hair), and Best Choreography (Hair and Hairspray)
- University of Northern Colorado: 3x Departmental Scholar

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- T. Schreiber Studios (NYC): acting technique, scene study, on-camera
- Lorrie and Dianne Hull (Santa Monica, CA): Strasberg method
- Andrew Wade (NYC): Shakespeare, character study
- Liz Caplan Vocal Studio (NYC)
- Paul Taylor School (NYC): scholarship recipient
- STEPS on Broadway (NYC): work study
- University of Northern Colorado (Greeley, CO): BA musical theatre

REFERENCES

- Gareth Lake (Producer)- g@ghfproductions.co.uk
- Greg Schaffert (Producer)- gs@gregschaffert.com
- Marc Robin (Artistic Director)- mrobin@thefulton.org
- Kikau Alvaro (Artistic Director)- kikautown@gmail.com
- Josh Franklin (Playwright/Composer)- joshuaandrewfranklin@gmail.com
- Jessica Lee Goldyn (Actor/Dancer): jessicagoldyn@aol.com
- Julian Evans (Composer/Sound Designer): julianevangmail.com
- Craig Napoliello (Scenic Designer): napoliellodesign@gmail.com