



## ERIC BRAMAN

Eric Braman is a poet, theatre maker, and arts administrator based in Springfield, Oregon. Their poetic and theatrical works have been seen on stages across the United States including Ghostlight Theatre Ensemble (Chicago), Oregon Contemporary Theatre, Oregon Fringe Festival, Oregon Country Fair, Westford School for the Performing Arts (Massachusetts), Bigfoot Regional Poetry Slam, and more. Their writing has also been published by High Shelf Press, Qu Literary Magazine, Moon Tide Press, The Coachella Review, and more. Braman is the Program Director at Lane Arts Council where they support community events, education initiatives, artist support, and statewide arts advocacy. They are also a Producer with the NW10 Festival of Ten-Minute Plays, improv and storytelling coach, and adjunct professor with the University of Oregon College of Education. Upcoming projects include performing in a solo show, *Every Brilliant Thing*, at Oregon Contemporary Theatre and premiering their play *Shedding the Antlers* at Queer Theatre Kalamazoo. Braman has trained with Second City Chicago (improv), Tectonic Theatre Project (devised theatre), and Mandala Center for Change (theatre of the oppressed) and earned a MNM in Nonprofit Management from the University of Oregon and BA in Theatre Performance and Creative Writing from Western Michigan University.



## DR. JOYCE CHEN

A native of Taiwan, Dr. Joyce Wei-Jo Chen 陳瑋若 is an incoming Assistant Professor of Historical Keyboards at the University of Oregon. She is also a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Music (Historical Musicology) and the Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program in Humanities at Princeton University. Under the guidance of Wendy Heller, Joyce is currently working on her dissertation, “*Musica Experientia/Experimentum: Acoustics and Artisanal Knowledge in the Global Seventeenth Century*,” which explores the intersection between science, music, and aesthetics involving instrument-making, sensory experience, and the development of acoustical theory. For this project, Joyce spent 4 months working as an apprentice at Zuckermann Harpsichords International—the last harpsichord manufacturing factory in the United States— in Stonington, Connecticut. In addition, she just finished building her first harpsichord from a Troubadour Virginal Kit.

As a solo harpsichordist, Joyce has performed throughout the United States, France, Belgium, and Taiwan. Joyce received the 2018 Individual Artist Fellowship from the Delaware Division of the Arts and was a featured soloist in the 2019 Emerging Artist Showcase by Early Music America. Joyce is releasing her first solo harpsichord album featuring English virginalist music in Fall 2023/Winter 2024. Joyce holds a Doctor of Musical Arts in Harpsichord Performance from Stony Brook University and a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from UC Berkeley.



## **EHREN EBBAGE**

His professional career began as a member of Justin King and the Apologies, a rock band which regularly toured the US and was signed to Epic Records. The band's record, produced by Rob Schnapf and Ron Aniello, fell victim to a label regime change; the band was released from Epic and eventually dissolved.

Ehren's next step was to move to Los Angeles to make a record of his own, produced by Zac Rae. He pursued the path of solo singer-songwriter just far enough to realize that he much preferred working behind the scenes. Ehren took a job as the assistant engineer at the studio Zac owned with Joey Waronker, called The Bank, and soon began writing and recording with artists and songwriters around LA.

A chance encounter led to an opportunity to write instrumental underscore cues for television, and Ehren discovered a newfound interest in music for media, which became his focus for the next ten years or so. As part of a team of composers at Vanacore Music, he has written music for dozens of shows on every network in the US, and was given a BMI Film and TV Award for his work on the long-running reality series Undercover Boss.

In addition to his TV work, Ehren has scored commercials and documentaries, and his score for the nature doc 'Mystery Sharks of Seattle' earned him a NW Emmy nomination.

2019 brought an opportunity to work on a record with singer/songwriter Lizzy McAlpine; Ehren's former assistant Philip Etherington was producing and felt that he could use a hand, so Ehren signed on as co-producer of 5 songs on 'Give Me a Minute'. When it was time to make her second album, Lizzy asked Ehren and Philip to co-produce. The trio worked on the record side by side for much of 2021, and the album, 'five seconds flat', debuted in Spotify's Top Ten Global releases in April 2022. Ehren contributed to the record as producer, engineer, and instrumentalist on all but two of the fourteen songs.

Ehren has lived in a number of places including Oakland, Los Angeles, Nashville and Seattle. Currently, Ehren works from his purpose-built studio in Eugene, Oregon.



## JANA MESZAROS

Jana Meszaros is a multi-disciplinary performance artist and arts professional based in Eugene. Having performed, taught, and choreographed professionally since studying dance and business at the University of Oregon, she has held residencies along the west coast, produced an album, and published her movement research internationally. Notably, she has worked with SF's La Alternativa and DanceAbility International, Shannon Mockli, Katie Griffin, Sara Shelton Mann, Cynthia Gutierrez, and Brad Garner, and mentored directly with La Alt's Kathleen Hermesdorf and DanceAbility founder Alito Alessi. As a Master Teacher of the DanceAbility Method, she has traveled globally to teach accessible dance, lead trainings in inclusive pedagogy, and perform with the mixed abilities company Joint Forces- serving as rehearsal director and contributing choreographer since 2015. All along the way, she has managed to work and thrive in the systems and industries surrounding the stage, from hospitality to bartending, to program coordination, concert marketing, several facets of production, and ultimately venue management. She has served as a venue manager of a small urban experimental performance space, a mid-size music venue, and currently as the Farmers Market Pavilion Steward for the City of Eugene's Cultural Services. "It is my belief that the diversification of an arts career can fuel or be fueled by the creative spark."



## **DIEDRE SANDVICK**

Deidre Sandvick currently serves as the Executive Director of Development Programs at the University of Oregon. In this role, she manages the fundraising teams for six units on campus, carries her own portfolio of major and principal gift prospects, and oversees several Development projects. She has been at the UO since 2008. Prior to coming to the UO, she was a development officer for 8 years at the San Diego Opera, when the company was on the Top 10 list of opera companies, based on budget size. She started her fundraising career as a student telefund caller at UC Santa Cruz. She was born and raised in Tokyo, Japan. She has her B.A. from UC Santa Cruz and her M.A. from the University of Wisconsin, Madison.



## KATY VIZDAL

Katy Vizdal is the Education & Community Engagement Director at Eugene Symphony Association, a position they have held since 2016. Vizdal is passionate about bringing music education opportunities to youth, and they lead music advocacy efforts in the Southern Willamette Valley region to champion strong music programs in schools. Vizdal provides consulting for local non-profit arts organizations, and has held positions at Lane Arts Council, the Community Center for the Performing Arts (Eugene, Oregon), and Krannert Center for the Performing Arts (Urbana, Illinois). In 2009, Vizdal served as an AmeriCorps Volunteer at the Urbana-Champaign Independent Media Center. Vizdal holds a BA in Music from the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana, where they performed with the UIUC Wind Symphony, Clarinet Choir, Indonesian Gamelan ensemble, and Zimbabwean Mbira ensemble. In their free time, Vizdal plays Shona music in a Zimbabwean marimba band in Eugene, Oregon.