

Artist Biographies





Photos: Sarah Larson



Jenni Reinke (Creator / Performer)

Jenni Reinke is a performing artist working in dance, theater and music. A founding member of Quasimondo Physical Theatre, she has worked with the company to devise more than 20 original productions since 2012. Credits include creator, co-director, choreographer, and performance ensemble. Milwaukee Journal

Sentinel has lauded her performances as "always mesmerizing," "ravishingly beautiful" and "riveting," and has consistently included her work in its annual "Best Of Wisconsin Theater" review. With collaborator Brian Rott, she has co-directed critically-acclaimed works of dance theatre, exploring microbiology (*Animolecules*); gender, sexuality and eroticism (*Kama Sutra*); the life and works of Salvador Dali (*Giraffe on Fire*); and the physiological and psychological effects of deep space travel (*Bottle 99*).

Jenni also has worked with Milwaukee companies Wild Space, Danceworks, Daniel Burkholder/The Playground, and DanceCircus, as well as with independent choreographers Simone Ferro, Esmé Boyce, Nanette Robinson, and others. She holds an MFA in contemporary dance and choreography from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (UWM), a BA in music from Beloit College, and has trained with the following practitioners: LeeSaar The Company (New York), Khecari (Chicago), Suzuki Company of Toga (Japan), Sankai Juku Butoh Company (Japan), Kerala Kathakali Centre (India), Swami Vivekananda Yoga University (India), and S. N. Goenka Vipassana Meditation (Illinois). Jenni shares her artistic practices through community engagement, teaching yoga and meditation at UWM, creative movement and intergenerational artmaking at Danceworks, and violin and music lessons.



Brian Rott (Dramaturg / Technical Director / Lighting Design)

Brian Rott is Founding Producing Artistic and Executive Director of Quasimondo Physical Theatre, which he founded in 2012 and under which he has produced, directed and created more than 30 original productions. A meticulous craftsman, Rott takes an active role in all aspects of developing original theater. In addition to



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producing and directing, he has designed sound, lighting, projections, sets, choreography, costumes and makeup.

Rott's co-production of *Zie Magic Flute* with Milwaukee Opera Theatre was awarded the 2017 Footlights People's Choice Award for "Best Performance" and the 2019 Award for "Best Costume Design." In 2015 he collaborated with Present Music and Grammy award-winning pianist Cory Smythe to create *Carnival*, a theatrical concert merging music, dance, and *commedia dell'arte*. Rott's dissection of gender roles and cosplay culture, *Kamikaze Cutesauce Cosplay Club*, played at the New York International Fringe Festival and was featured in Time Out: New York, Village Voice, and Daily Beast's "Best of Fringe NYC." Recognized for innovation in clown and *bouffon*, his arresting exposé on homeland security, *Americlown*, was listed in Milwaukee Journal Sentinel's "Top Ten Wisconsin Plays of 2013."

An international theatre director, Rott received an MFA in Physical Theatre from Accademia Dell'Arte (Arezzo, Italy), and has trained with masters across the globe: Moscow Art Theatre (Russia), Odin Teatret (Denmark), Berlin School of Music (Germany), FLIC School of Circus (Italy), International Mask Museum of Donato Sartori (Italy), Teatro Piccolo (Italy), Tri Pusaka Cakti Arts Foundation (Bali), Suzuki Company of Toga (Japan), and Sankai Juku Butoh Company (Japan). He earned a BA in Theatre Arts from the University of Wisconsin-Parkside and has assisted directors at the Guthrie, American Players Theatre, and Great River Shakespeare Festival.