SYR HAYATI BEKER

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Award-winning writer, interactive storyteller, and producer working across teams and genres to make the imaginary real.

SKILLS

Immersive Interactive Designer
Worldbuilding and Storyboarding
Dialogue Writing

Character Design Research and Lore Development

Cross Discipline Collaboration Writing Room Leadership Iteration and Problem Solving Consensus Building

WORK HISTORY

Co-Founder/Co-Artistic Director/Playwright · Queer Cat Productions

San Francisco, CA · October 2018 to Current

- Co-Founder, Co-Artistic Director and Development Manager of interactive immersive theater company with mission to redefine accessibility in theater
- As Growth and Development Manager, grew company from inception to sustainable arts organization with government and organizational funding
- Co-produced full theatrical productions every year since 2019, through a global pandemic, including the first immersive theatrical production on Zoom
- Leading Disability Justice initiative to innovate accessibility in theater

Immersive Experience Creator/Producer/Writer · Various Organizations

San Francisco, CA · August 2017 to Current

- Experience working in and leading writers' rooms, collaboratively, under tight deadline, including radio shows, live theatrical shows, and mixed-reality virtual shows
- Co-produced yearly shows since 2018, including virtual shows, shows in theaters, and shows in public parks managing design team, electrical, crew
- · Story Development Consultant for franchises inc. FNAF AR game, Pseudopod
- Currently collaborating on large-scale XR project with creative coders and designers

Partner, Event Manager · Old Devil Moon

San Francisco, CA • September 2016 to January 2023

- Partner and event manager in themed bar, in San Francisco Bay Area
- · Created, curated, planned, marketed monthly events
- Managed press relations, attracting press from the SF Chronicle, 48 Hills, and A&E

Co-Founder & Workshop Leader • The Escapery Art Collective

San Francisco, CA • June 2014 to November 2022

- Co-founded and led writers' and artists' cooperative
- Created generative creative writing classes and art space, in person and online
- Has served over 500 new and returning writers and artists since founding
- Reformed as Starmaps & Sea Monsters, continues to grow and serve artists and writers with virtual and in-person workshops and experiences

SELECT AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- Next Stage Summit, Conference for Leaders in Immersive and Experiential Arts & Entertainment, Scholarship Recipient, 2023
- Lambda Literary Foundation, Judge in Fiction, 2017, 2018
- Graduate of Clarion West, Acclaimed 18-member intensive for professional writers in speculative fiction, 2018
- Forward Slash Story, Invitation-Only Summit for New Media Storytellers/ Makers, 2018
- Lambda Literary Foundation, Fiction Fellowship & Artist in Residence, 2016, 2017
- OSU's Shotpouch Foundation, Awarded Writer, August 2016
- Tin House Workshop, Fiction Scholarship, Reed College, July 2016

SELECT RECENT PUBLICATIONS AND PRODUCTIONS

Fiction/Nonfiction

- What A Fish Like, Club Chicxulub, (2023)
- By Ghosts For Ghosts, Pandemic Era Virtual Horror Theater, Tor (2022)
- Wanted: Houseboi, In Queering Home (Arisa White, Mah Jeffra eds, 2021)
- Playlist for Merx Love in Times of Sea Levels Rising, Michigan Quarterly Rev. (2020)
- Giovanna's Personal Time Vacation, Joyland (2019)
- Root Systems, Fairy Tale Review (2019)

Produced Plays and Immersive Experiences

- Forgetting Tree, Producer, Queer Cat Productions, November 2023
- Rise, Producer, Assistant Director, Queer Cat Productions, October 2022
- Rise The Film Assistant Co-Director, Queer Cat Productions, October 2022
- The Witching Hour, Pseudopod, October 2021
- Dial A Queer Cat, Writer, Director, Queer Cat Productions October 2021
- CAMP!, Co-Writer and Director, Queer Cat Productions May 2020
- Felix B. Love is NOT Alone!, Co-Writer/Director, Queer Cat Productions, April 2020

Full Portfolio at Syrbeker.com/work

EDUCATION

MFA Fiction • San Francisco State University

San Francisco, CA • May 2015

Correlative in Teaching Creative Writing and theater, MA English.

- Awarded Departmental Award;
- · Graduate Teaching Associate Fellowship
- Fourteen Hills Literary Magazine, Fiction Editor.

Juris Doctorate - Human Rights Law • Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law

New York, NY • May 2005

- Staff Member, Cardozo Journal of Conflict Resolution
- Human Rights Fellowship
- · Staff Member, Human Rights Clinic

Bachelor of Arts - Individualized Studies: Journalism/Narrative • New York University

New York • May 2002

- Graduated Magna Cum Laude
- Founder's Award Academic Excellence

LANGUAGES

French Native/Bilingual German Limited Working Italian Limited Working Turkish Conversational