

# BROOKE CIARDELLI

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*Producer, Director, Writer, Educator*

## **PRODUCER**

### MIT Future Fest, Producer

Ciardelli was tapped to produce the inaugural festival. Primarily responsible curating, commissioning and sourcing 50+ events in partnership with MIT Institute, MIT Museum and organizations across the region. Her scope includes strategy, budget development, venue and production management, marketing and sales plans. (2025 -)

### Northern Stage Theater

As founder and Artistic Director/Creative Producer, created 18 seasons of live stage productions at “the highly regarded theater company” (Washington Post) including plays, musicals and new works. She grew the company from a \$6,000 initial stake to an annual operating budget of \$4M with over 40,000 visits per year. Duties included hiring and managing production and creative staff of 50+ per year, creating and managing stage production budgets, production timelines, schedules, financial and management reporting to senior leadership and board of directors. (1994-2012)

*“(Brooke) directed one of the most successful rural theater companies in the nation. Thank you for being a true community leader and passionate supporter of theater and the arts.” Senator Bernie Sanders.*

### Circus Zambia, Creative Producer

Ciardelli was invited by the co-founders to collaborate on the founding of a social circus working with over 500 kids on, or at-risk of living on the streets, in high-density, urban slums in Zambia’s capital city of Lusaka, Zambia. Managed the design and construction of a new 250-seat theater building and produced the opening ceremony with Prince Harry and the Commonwealth Trust, UK. Circus Zambia has been featured in CNN-Inside Africa, BBC and Al Jazeera news networks; has toured internationally to the U.K., Europe, U.S.A., Japan, Australia and UAE. The Company is sponsored by MTV-Staying Alive (Circus Zambia’s “Clowns For Condoms”), Comic Relief, Prince Claus Foundation, Queen’s Young Leaders, Burning Man Foundation, and others. She continues to produce international tours and exchanges with the company.

### Cambridge Science Festival, Producer

Produced a city-wide festival in partnership with the city, leading academic institutions, community groups and corporate sponsors. The week-long festival included 300+ events at over 90 venues which attracted 50,000+ attendees. Highlight events included Impulse Immersive Fashion Evening in collaboration with Boston Fashion Week, Illuminus featuring multiple designers and the finale event, Science Carnival with 100+ exhibitors and 17,000 attendees. (2020-2024)

### Harare International Festival of the Arts (HIFA)

Produced and directed the 15<sup>th</sup> annual Opening Show for the Harare International Festival of the Arts in Harare, Zimbabwe. The show, Switch On, played to an audience of 20,000 people in the Harare Gardens and included 185 performers, from 22 countries, speaking 17 different languages, created original video content and culminating in a 20-minute fireworks display. When less than 24-hours before the closing performance, government interference resulted in the cast of the closing performance denied entry to the country, and the festival director tapped her to create an impromptu closing performance.

### Selected Other Producing:

Tricycle Theatre, London, U.K.

Edinburgh Fringe Festival, Scotland

Barefeet Theatre, New York, NY

Burlington City Arts, VT

Durham Drama Festival, U.K.  
Coastal Arts Festival, FL  
Burlington Music Conference, VT  
Castle Theatre Company, U.K.  
Tom Crean – Antarctic Explore, U.S. Producer, Sugaan Theatre, Irish Rep  
London Arts Discovery, London/U.S.A

## **DIRECTOR**

Member of Stage Directors and Choreographer's Union (SCD), directed over 60 professionally produced productions in the U.S., the U.K., Europe and Africa, including 5 Moss Hart Awards for Best Professional Production (*All My Sons*, *Les Miserables*, *Amadeus*, *Hamlet* and *To Kill A Mockingbird*), an Addison and five O.W.L. awards for 10 World Premieres, 2 European Premieres, 11 regional premiers. Worked with actors from Broadway, the West End and around the world.

She has worked on a number of Arthur Miller plays, including unpublished *Resurrection Blues*, with the playwright himself in residence, and an award-winning production of *All My Sons*. She has directed Patrick Stewart and Lisa Harrow in *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf* and worked with playwright Sonja Linden on the American Premiere of *The Strange Passenger*. Produced and Directed *The Mhoon Show* starring Washington D.C.-based Princess Mhoon. The show was developed in Johannesburg, South Africa and presented at the Barefeet International Festival in Zambia and at The Dance Studio in Washington, D.C.

Brooke directed the world premiere of *Jimmy and Carolyn* at Queen's Theatre, NY, NY starring Lisa Harrow and Sam Tsoutsovas. She produced and co-directed the world premiere musical *TRUTH*, TheArc Theater, Anacostia, Washington, D.C. (Emmy Award-winning executive Producer Craig Haffner, starring Olivier Award nominee and Broadway star April Nixon), which was live broadcast by VirtualArtsTV. Ciardelli also directed A.R. Gurney's European Premiere of *Black Tie* for Vienna's English Theatre in Austria.

\* Visit [www.brookeciardelli.com](http://www.brookeciardelli.com) for full direction resume.

## **ADAPTOR / WRITER**

### *A View From The Bridge - A Syrian Muslim Story*

Ciardelli holds the rights from the Arthur Miller Estate for her modernized, Syrian-Muslim-adaptation of Arthur Miller's *A View from the Bridge*. "The Trust gave unprecedented permission to Ms. Ciardelli to adapt and direct a newly conceived production of the play. We strongly support the project" said Patrick Herold, Sr. Vice-President, ICM. Julia Bolous of The Arthur Miller Trust echoed "We have encouraged Brooke's vision and look forward to this production." She created a cultural advisory group and was funded by Vermont Arts Council, NEA & Vermont Community Foundation, Arthur Miller Trust, Arthur Miller Foundation and the Arthur Miller Journal. Stephen Marino, Editor of The Arthur Miller Journal said, "This is a ground-breaking new production of the play."

### *The Shrew Tamer*

Co-adapted *The Shrew Tamer* (a coupling of Shakespeare's *The Taming of the Shrew* and John Fletcher's *The Tamer Tamed*) was reviewed as "a delicious new comedy," and Ed Siegel of the Boston Globe wrote, "Ciardelli has fashioned a play of significant historical interest." Addison Award winner for Best Play.

### O Myths

Commissioned by the Lesli Center for the Humanities, Dartmouth College to create an original adaptation of Ovid's *Metamorphoses*. "A most delightful and refreshing original theater piece based on this ancient masterpiece" - was performed as the basis of an international exchange between actors from New York, Zimbabwe, Mexico and Romania. Production included performances in ten languages. "A clever petit guignol of salacious, gruesome and awesome scenes." Bill Craig, Valley News.

### *From The Manor Torn*

Co-wrote the 1950's farcical comedy which was produced by CEW Production at the Westside Theatre, NYC and by Specific in London.

*The Never-Ending Story*

Ciardelli adapted Michael Ende's classic German fantasy novel for Barefeet Acrobatic and Physical Theatre Company, Zambia.

Brooke In The Bush – Editorial Series

Montpelier Times-Argus and Rutland Herald published her 8-part series of her work making theater in Africa and available online and via the paper's archives.

## EDUCATOR

Visiting Fellow, University College, Durham University, Durham, UK 2008 - 2012

Taught master classes and seminars for undergraduate students. Additionally, was the advisor to Durham Student Theater.

Lecturer/Workshop Leader

Vienna's International School, AUSTRIA; Chad's College, Durham, ENGLAND; Elderhostel, Edinburgh, SCOTLAND; Harare International Festival of the Arts, ZIMBABWE, AFRICA; New England Theater Conference, Boston, MA; Dartmouth College Theatre Department, Hanover, NH; SUNY - Albany, Albany, NY; Colby Sawyer College, New London, NH; Keene State College, NH; Norwich University, VT; Phi Beta Kappa, New England Conf., Burlington, VT; Kendal Community, Hanover, NH; Adventures in Learning, New London, NH; Norwich Women's Club, Norwich, VT

Project Playwright

Created and directed a 12-week literacy education program serving young playwrights in grades 5 and 6, from 10 low-income school districts in Vermont and New Hampshire. Over 500 students wrote 10-minute plays, the outstanding play and playwright from each school had their play professionally directed, designed and performed. 30 selected plays per year were published in a magazine of New Plays by Teens for Teens.

The Big Read, National Endowment for the Arts

In partnership with VT Public Television, the Vermont National Guard and The Center for Cartoon Studies, she created and led the Vermont segment of the NEA's National Big Read Program. Utilizing John O'Brien's Vietnam memoir *The Things They Carried*, the year-long program included current or previously engaged families with parents serving in the National Guard, state-wide schools, area colleges and local libraries and consisted of ongoing classes and workshop. Program participants included Norwich University, The Vermont and New Hampshire Arts Councils and state-wide high schools and community libraries.

International Exchange Host with Developing Artists, U.K.

Selected, funded and hosted USA-based exchanges with Developing Artists, U.K. and artists from Cape Verde, Palestine, Mexico, Sweden, Poland, England, Ireland and Scotland. Exchanges focused on sharing best-practices in theater administration, artistic, producing and technical skills sharing.

## AWARDS / GRANTS

N.E.A., T.C.G., Shubert Foundation, Doris Duke Foundation, Surdna Foundation, Arts Midwest, Henderson Foundation, Bay and Paul Foundation, Jane's Trust, A.K. Watson Foundation, Billie Rose Foundation, VT Arts Council, VT Humanities Council, VT Community Foundation, NH Arts Council, NH Humanities Council, NH Charitable Foundation, Mayer Foundation, Puffin Foundation, Donley Foundation, Frances R. Dewing Foundation, Turrell Fund, Jessie B. Cox Foundation, Mascoma Bank Foundation, Chittenden Bank

Moss Hart Award - Best Production (2004, 2008, 2009, 2010); Addison Award (2011); O.W.L. Award (2010, 2011, 2012)

## EDUCATION

Sarah Lawrence College, B.F.A. Theater: directing & producing

## PERSONAL

A dual citizen of the U.S.A and the Republic of Ireland, she has traveled extensively including: Egypt, Sudan, United Arab Emirates, China, South Korea, Thailand, Singapore, Denmark, England, Wales, Ireland, Scotland, Netherlands, Germany, Austria, France, Italy, Greece, Turkey, Canada, Caribbean Islands, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Zambia.