

christopher michaels

THEATRE PRODUCER

thecmikes@gmail.com | +1.917.391.7054
www.christophermichaels.nyc/producer

Accomplished producer with extensive production and management experience leading productions from concept to curtain. Recognized for strong empathetic leadership, a consistent record of delivering high-quality productions on time and within budget, and a collaborative approach that fosters creative innovation and ensures seamless operations while creating impactful theatrical experiences that engage audiences and uphold artistic excellence.

strengths & skills

- Collaborative, communicative, confident, creative, curious, detail-oriented, focused, innovative, open-minded, and organized
- Effective in supporting creative and production teams throughout all stages of development and production
- Committed to maintaining safe, inclusive, and collaborative work and rehearsal environments
- Brings multifaceted experience to understand and support the needs of creatives, production, and company leadership
- Experienced in event planning and production as well as project and team management
- Proficient in Microsoft Word, Excel, Google Workspace, Adobe Photoshop, Audacity, Final Draft Pro, iMovie, and Zoom

affiliations

- Member: SDC and AEA
- THEATER RESOURCES UNLIMITED
 - Producer Development Mentorship 2022
 - Producer Bootcamps 2018-2022
 - Panelist & Featured Producer 2024-2025
- Alumnus: THE BUSINESS OF BROADWAY
- Member: THE THEATERMAKER'S STUDIO

awards & achievements

"BITE-SIZED BROADWAY"

- BEST ENTERTAINMENT PODCAST SERIES
W3 Award 2021, Vega Award 2021, Communicator Award 2022
- BEST SCRIPTED FICTION SERIES
W3 Award 2021, Vega Award 2021
- BEST ARTS & CULTURE PODCAST SERIES
Vega Award 2021, Webby Award Honor 2021
- BEST REMOTE PRODUCTION SERIES
W3 Award 2021
- GROUNDBREAKING ACHIEVEMENT IN REMOTE PRODUCTION
Communicator Award 2022

"THE COMMUTERS..." (Producer)

- BEST MUSICAL NOMINATION
Strawberry Theater Festival | NYC

SELECT PRODUCING EXPERIENCE

(Additional experience upon request)

INDIEWORKS THEATRE CO | Founder/Producing Artistic Director 2015-PRESENT | NYC

- Defined and upheld the organization's mission, goals, branding, and artistic vision
- Managed production budgets, financial planning, and fundraising efforts to ensure successful project execution
- Negotiated contracts with vendors and talent to optimize budget use and secure quality resources
- Maintained comprehensive production records, including contracts, licenses, and financial documentation, ensuring compliance with industry standards
- Coordinated administrative functions, overseeing scheduling, payments, and communications to streamline operations.
- Oversaw all aspects of production planning, including timelines, role delegation, and cross-department collaboration to ensure efficient, high-quality productions
- Led fundraising initiatives and maintained strong relationships with donors
- Analyzed production outcomes and audience feedback to assess success, identify areas for improvement, and enhance performance impact
- Enhanced efficiency and artistic integrity with best practices in production management
- Facilitated effective collaboration among creative teams, ensuring alignment with artistic vision and production goals
- Fostered a nurturing and inclusive environment, encouraging the growth and development of emerging artists, while also providing guidance and support to seasoned professionals, resulting in a highly motivated and cohesive artistic team

BITE-SIZED BROADWAY (Podcast Series) | Exec. Producer/Creative Director 2019-2025 | NYC

- Led the artistic vision during the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic
- Collaborated with international writers, providing dramaturgical support to adapt stage musicals for an audio-only format
- Directed complete episodes, musicals, talkbacks, commercials, and promotional events
- Managed casting with prominent talent from Broadway, West End, and Hollywood
- Oversaw capitalization efforts totaling \$140,000 across two seasons
- Recruited and managed a 20-person production and business team over two seasons
- Negotiated contracts with creatives, unions, and guilds
- Developed and designed cost-effective advertising and web campaigns
- Debuted in the top 5% of new podcasts and top 1% of theatre podcasts worldwide
- Earned 12 awards and 16 nominations in season one, including a Communicator Award for "Groundbreaking Achievement in Remote Production"

SOPHIA & THE BEE-MAN (2 Staged Readings) | Exec. Producer JUN 2022, NOV 2024 | NYC

- Maintained budget, oversaw payroll, liaised with unions, and tracked production progress
- Resolved complex scheduling conflicts through clear communication, strategic planning, and effective time management tools
- Collaborated with casting directors and unions to secure high-profile Broadway talent
- Managed audience engagement and feedback to support the developmental process
- Currently advising on option agreements for a regional production with enhancement deal and planned Off-Broadway run

RUE D'AWAKENING (Festival Production) | Executive Producer FEB-NOV 2022 | NYC

- Managed applications, contracts, and advised producer on options and negotiations
- Maintained budgets, schedules, payroll; coordinated with festival, venue, studios, unions
- Implemented a comprehensive development schedule of readings, meetings, and focus groups leading up to production
- Hired and managed the creative team, production staff, musicians, and cast
- Guided producer through emergency closure, completed all closing paperwork, recovered refundable costs, and coordinated future production planning

THE GIANT HOAX (Off-Broadway) | Lead Producer 2017-2019 | NYC

- Led 2.5 years of development of the property through readings, workshops, and a final premiere production at Theatre Row
- Collaborated closely with the writer, providing artistic and dramaturgical support
- Executed a successful capitalization campaign for \$70,000 via donors and crowdfunding
- Launched a new producer mentorship program to provide hands-on experience, raise capital, and expand industry network
- Achieved sold-out performances and a 92% ShowScore rating with rave reviews

VALLEY HIGH (Short Film) | Executive Producer 2015-2019 | NYC

- Secured IP and negotiated licensing for recording, filming, and use of original never-before-heard arrangements/orchestrations
- Hired and oversaw production company, creative team, cast, musicians, and crew of 30+
- Successfully raised \$30,000 via donations, crowdfunding, and unique fundraising events
- Adapted story and workflow to overcome technical issues and avoid production delays
- Collaborated with post-production team to complete and release the film
- Produced a premiere event to launch and celebrate the film's release