

ABOUT ANDREW TSAO

After receiving his Master of Fine Arts in Directing from California Institute of the Arts, Andrew went on to work in regional theaters and off-Broadway. He became resident director of the Indiana Repertory Theatre where he directed numerous productions, served as the theatre's literary manager, and taught acting in the conservatory training program. He was then invited to become the first artistic director of the New Harmony Project, a prestigious writer's lab in New Harmony, Indiana. There he oversaw development of new work, which ranged from plays and musicals to screenplays and TV pilots. Andrew then moved to Los Angeles to begin his career in television.

He became a series director on ABC's HOME IMPROVEMENT starring Tim Allen, produced and directed NBC'S WORKING starring Fred Savage, SOUL MAN starring Dan Aykroyd, among others, and dozens of other prime time programs, including episodes of FRIENDS (The "Pivot!" episode), CAROLINE IN THE CITY, SUDDENLY SUSAN, JESSE, THE SINGLE GUY, IN THE HOUSE, THE JEFF FOXWORTHY SHOW, DAG, MADIGAN MEN, SABRINA, THE TICK, THE GEORGE LOPEZ SHOW, PHIL OF THE FUTURE, WIZARDS OF WAVERLY PLACE and more.

In Los Angeles, Andrew was invited to direct two productions for Shakespeare Festival L.A. (THE TEMPEST, and JULIUS CAESAR) a world premiere opera for L.A. Opera (ON GOLD MOUNTAIN), He has directed two short films: BRIGHTNESS starring Eric Idle (MONTY PYTHON) which was awarded the Gold Special Jury Prize for 2001 at the WorldFest in Houston and SOLSTICE.

Theatre credits include the world premiere of Theodore Drieser's SISTER CARRIE for Indiana Rep, and THE TEMPEST at East West Players in Los Angeles, THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR for Oregon Shakespeare Festival, and Nilo Cruz's adaptation of Gabriel Garcia Marquez's A VERY OLD MAN WITH ENORMOUS WINGS for Center Theatre Group in Los Angeles.

Internationally, he has produced and directed noted original devised theatre works at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, including THE GRIND SHOW (C Venues), ITHACA I'LL NEVER SEE (Rocket Venues), THE WASTE LAND SISTERS (Summerhall), BRANDY ALEXANDER (Gilded Balloon) and SEARCHERS (Gilded Balloon).

He led numerous collegiate summer drama programs to the Edinburgh Festivals and created The Drama Collective Pontlevoy in

France where he brought European master teachers together with American students to live, study and collaborate on original devised theatre works between 2011 and 2016.

Andrew was a tenured associate professor of dramatic arts at the University of Washington School of Drama where he was part of the faculty for the MFA Professional Acting and Directing Programs and was head of the Bachelor of Arts program from 2012 through 2017.

Andrew founded The Studio Seattle in 2018 where he and his teaching faculty guide actors in a process that enables them up to meet the professional standards of the industry

Currently, Andrew lives on Tiger Mountain in Washington state. He recently produced the independent television pilot A LITTLE DARK, written and directed by Stella Taylor. He is writing and developing other projects for film and television along with new original works for theatre.

His podcast, Tending The Fire: a podcast about creativity is available at: www.tendingthefirepod.com or on Apple podcasts.

Andrew has been a public speaker and advocate for arts education through his entire career and continues to support the inclusion of arts curriculums in schools and organizations nationwide.