

BREON ARZELL

Choreographer - Director - Writer - Artistic Curator

Professional Summary

- Experience with training and conditioning actors and dancers at all levels
 - Able to lead large and small groups, as well as one-on-one instruction
 - Exceptional adaptability, and developer of creative content
 - Specializing in naturalistic and idealistic choreography, and the ability to collaborate with others.
 - Movement styles include: Musical Theater, HipHop, Modern Jazz, Contemporary, Body Percussion
-

Musicals

Play On (Choreographer), Lili-Anne Brown, Signature Theatre, Arlington, VA, 2025

- jazz, lindy hop, tap, stylized body movement, lyrical, juke

The Color Purple (Choreographer), Lili-Anne Brown, Goodman Theatre, MUNY, Drury Lane; 2025/2023/2019

- modern, jazz, west african, stylized body movement, pedestrian & gestural

Once on this Island (Director/Choreographer), Cape Fear Regional Theatre, Fayetteville, NC, 2025

- traditional haitian, modern, kompa, ritual, lyrical

She Came from the Bronx (Choreographer), The Q Brothers, UIC, Chicago, IL, 2025

- hiphop, breakdance, pop-lock, pop, contemporary, vogue

Milo Imagines the World (Choreographer), Mikael Burke, CCT & CTC, Chicago & Minneapolis, 2024

- modern, jazz, west african, stylized body movement, pedestrian & gestural

Little Shop of Horrors (Choreographer), Ben Hanna, Illinois Repertory Theatre, Indianapolis, IN, 2024

- doo-wop, jazz, stylized body movement, pop

FELA! (Choreographer), Lili-Anne Brown, Olney Theatre w/ RoundHouse Theatre, DMV, 2023

- jazz, D.C. gogo, social dance, percussion, stylized body movement, funk

Acoustic Rooster... (Choreographer), Lili-Anne Brown, The Kennedy Center, Washington, D.C., 2021

- jazz, D.C. gogo, social dance, percussion, stylized body movement, funk

Miss You Like Hell (Choreographer), Lisa Portes, Olney Theatre Center, Olney, MD, 2020

- jazz, contemporary, line-dancing, pop, pedestrian & gestural

Head Over Heels* (Choreographer), Derek Van Barham, Kokandy Prod., Chicago, IL, 2019 (Roosevelt U., 2021)

- jazz, contemporary, house, vogue, body percussion, social dance, gogo, pop

The Total Bent* (Choreographer & Ens.), Lili-Anne Brown, Haven Theatre w/ About Face Th., Chicago, IL, 2019

- contemporary, footwork, 60's r&b/pop

Marie Christine* (Choreographer), Lili-Anne Brown, BoHo Theatre, Chicago, IL, 2018

- modern, jazz, contemporary, lyrical, stylized body movement, waltz

The Wiz* (Choreographer, A.D. & Ens.), dir. Lili-Anne Brown, Kokandy Productions, Chicago, IL, 2017

- jazz, contemporary, modern, hip-hop, street

Scottsboro Boys* (Assoc. Choreographer), Sam Roberson, Porchlight Music Theatre, Chicago, IL, 2017

- associate choreographer, jazz, ragtime, cakewalk, vaudeville

Night Runner (Choreographer), Lisa Portes, The Theatre School at DePaul University, Chicago, IL, 2017

- African, modern, contemporary, stylized body movement

Plays

Dance Like There's BP Watching (Choreo & Ens), Rob Wilson, Second City @ Woolly Mammoth, D.C., 2024

- hip hop, jazz, social dance, new jack swing, 90s r&b

Kill Move Paradise* (Movement Director), Wardell Julius Clark, TimeLine Theatre, Chicago, IL, 2020

- stylized body movement, body percussion, urban, retro, contemporary

The Leopard Play (Choreographer), Laura Acala-Baker, Steep Theatre, Chicago, IL, 2020

- indigenous, urban, contemporary, strip-tease

The First Deep Breath (Choreographer), Steve Broadnax III, Victory Gardens Theatre, Chicago, IL, 2019

- modern, stylized body movement

The Brothers Size (Movement Director & Ens.), Monty Cole, Steppenwolf Theatre Company, Chicago, IL, 2019

- Yoruban ritual, stylized body movement, modern

Back in the Day (Choreographer & Ens.), Raquel Torres, UrbanTheater Company, Chicago, IL, 2019

- 80's house, electro, pop, breakdance, vogue, hip-hop

Lottery Day (Associate Director), Lili-Anne Brown, Goodman Theatre, Chicago, IL, 2019

- social dance; *associate director

Mike Pence Sex Dream (Choreographer), Hutch Pimentel, First Floor Theatre, Chicago, IL, 2019

- contemporary, jazz, vogue

We are Proud to Present... (Mvmt Dir.), H. Gordon/G. Randle, Steppenwolf Theatre Co., Chicago, IL 2019

- stylized body movement, West African, gum boot, gestural, body percussion

Voyeurs de Venus (Movement Director), Tasia A. Jones, Northwestern University, Chicago, IL, 2019

- modern, east & West African, stylized body movement, gogo

Rightlynd (Movement Director), Lisa Portes, Victory Gardens Theatre, Chicago, IL, 2018

- stylized body movement, pop, contemporary

Insurrection: HoldingHistory (Choreographer & Ens.), Wardell Julius Clark, Stage Left Theatre, Chicago, IL, 2018

- west african, stylized body movement

The Shipment (Choreographer), Wardell Julius Clark, Red Tape Theatre, Chicago, IL, 2018

- vaudeville, show tune

The Projects (Choreographer), Jess McLeod (1), Monty Cole (2), American Theater Co., Chicago, IL, 2017

- body percussion, stylized movement

Choir Boy (Choreographer), Mike Menendian, Raven Theatre, Chicago, IL, 2017

- jazz, social dance, show choir, group

Dontrell Who Kissed the Sea (Movement Choreographer), Chika Ike, First Floor Theatre, Chicago, IL, 2017

- Yemaya tribal dance, african, modern

Not About Nightingales (Movement Director), Mike Menendian, Raven Theatre, Chicago, IL, 2017

- body percussion/step, soundscape design, formation drills

Wig Out (Choreographer), Nathan Singh, The Theater School at DePaul University, Chicago, IL, 2017

- hip-hop, pop, vogue

The House that Will Not Stand (Choreographer), Chay Yew, Victory Gardens Theatre, Chicago, IL, 2016

- bamboulas, West African, pop, waltz, contemporary

Julius Caesar (Movement Director), Michael Halberstam, Writers Theatre, Glencoe, IL, 2016

- abstract, contemporary, fight choreography, stylized body movement, gestural

The Hairy Ape* (Choreographer & Ens.), Monty Cole, Oracle Productions, Chicago, IL, 2016

- step/body percussion, gestural, stylized body movement

Television, Performance & Education

Fly Honey X, Erin Kilmurray, Fly Honey + Inconvenience Theatre, Chicago, IL, 2019, 2023, 2025

- Choreographer; hip-hop, jazz, burlesque, strip tease, vogue

The 4400, CBS, Chicago, IL 2021-2022

-Choreographer, S01E01, S01E04, S01E11

Goodman Theatre, Resident Teaching Artist, Chicago, IL 2017-2023

- Choreographer/Director, Musical Theater Intensive; 14-18yo

- Facilitator/Director, Disney Musicals in Schools, 3rd-5th grade

About Face Theatre, Fall Youth Ensemble, Chicago, IL 2020

- Lead Teaching Artist; 12-20yo, movement & acting

Blacksite (short film), David Holcombe, Soft Cage Films, Chicago, IL, 2018

- Movement Choreographer; contemporary, lyrical, pedestrian, stylized body movement

A.C.L.E. Theatrino, San Remo, Italy, 2008-2013

-Assistant Artistic Director, Education Outreach, Facilitator, Instructor; students 6-18yo, Classroom Teachers

Mosaic Theater of Detroit, Detroit, MI, 2005-2007

- Education Outreach, Assistant Director of Acting, Ensemble Director, Choreographer

Awards & Recognitions

2025 3Arts Make A Wave Award, 3Arts Chicago

2024 (2020 & 2018) New City Magazine's 50 Players of Chicago Theater

2024 Helen Hayes Award, Best Choreography, 'FELA!', Olney Theatre & w/ RoundHouse Theatre

2024 Joseph Jefferson Award, Best Choreography, 'American Psycho', Kokandy Productions

2020 Joseph Jefferson Award, Artistic Specialization- Movement, 'Kill Move Paradise', TimeLine Theatre

2020 Joseph Jefferson Award, Best Choreography, 'Head Over Heels', Kokandy Productions

2019 BTAA & Jeff Award, Best Choreography, 'The Total Bent', Haven Theatre w/ About Face Theatre

2018 Black Theater Alliance Award, Best Choreography, 'Scottsboro Boys', Porchlight Music Theatre

2017 BroadwayWorld Chicago Award, Best Choreography, 'The Wiz', Kokandy Productions

2016 Joseph Jefferson Award, Artistic Specialization- Choreography, 'The Hairy Ape', Oracle Productions