

# JONATHAN CASTANIEN

he/him/his

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## Summary

A highly adaptable multi-disciplinary arts and entertainment professional with over 10 years of experience in producing, live event management, public relations, communications, and marketing. A natural leader and dependable collaborator who is recognized for creative problem solving, positive team building, and dynamic management.

## Producing

Producing Artistic  
Leader/Co-Founder  
The Sóng Collective  
2019-Present

- Built and launched the Viet Writers Lab to support 6 early career Vietnamese playwrights through a holistic program that provided education, inspiration through community sharing circles, and affinity space that culminated in a festival of new works featuring over 40 artists nationally in the Spring of 2021
- Featured in Theatre Center Group's 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Theatres of Color celebration
- Conceived *Collective Stories*, a digital multimedia storytelling event which showcases Vietnamese artists exploring identity, culture, and community with works born from facilitated conversations among the artists
- Raised funds and awareness for the National Network for Immigrant and Refugee Rights in response to the Syrian refugee crisis with a sold out benefit reading of *Vietgone* by Qui Nguyen
- Exceeded our first crowdsourced fundraiser goal and have a strong record of securing multiple grants, funding, and partnerships

Freelance Producer  
2019-Present

- With Situation Interactive, provided exceptional organization and client satisfaction on events including a digital gala, video content, and livestreams for in-person gatherings under tight timelines
- With 2g Second Generation Productions and HowlRound, produced *Inflections*, a digital reading series of 5 commissioned short plays highlighting the Asian American identity in response to attacks on Asians in the U.S. during 2020-2021
  - Successfully built schedules across multiple timezones, spearheaded casting and hiring needs with over 30 artists, and worked in tandem with the video editor to ensure a smooth editing and approval process
- Oversaw and managed developmental readings of new works for Theater Mu and 2g Second Generation Productions

## Arts Administration

Press  
Communications  
Artists at Play  
2016-2019

- Revamped the organization's media and communications efforts for events and productions
- Collaborated with producers to revitalize press contacts in the Southern California area and nationally
- Secured the milestone of Artists at Play's first Los Angeles Times feature and production review

Public Relations  
Assistant  
South Coast  
Repertory  
2013-2016

- Streamlined press packets into digital formats, expanded press lists, and formed new relationships with local media
- Increased copy writing/editing responsibilities and took on half of the season's production communications
- Composed and edited materials including: SCR blog stories, institutional articles, press releases, email copy, and internal newsletters
- Managed the digital photo and publications archives during each season
- Supported the Development department on Opening Night events as the donor photographer

Director of  
Marketing  
Shakespeare/  
Summerfest  
Orange County  
2013-2016

- Managed press communications, strategized social media postings, and coordinated grassroots efforts in the community
- Identified local neighborhoods to expand audience demographics and community partnerships
- Implemented optimization of social media, launched the organization's Twitter account, and maximized facebook ads increasing social media reach through specific targeting of demographics
- Forged relationships with local restaurants for cross promotion, table tents, and promotional material placement

## Production

Freelance Stage  
Manager  
2013-Present

- Featured in American Theatre Magazine's "Role Call: People to Watch" list, December 2018
- Extensive experience and commitment to new work development with over 30 readings, workshops, and first productions
- Easily adjusts to varying levels of resources and production support
- Exhibits adaptability working with seasoned professionals, students, and early career artists
- Practices an anti-oppressive and inclusive style of management

## Education & Awards

California State University  
Bachelor of Arts, Theatre  
Technical Design & Production Emphasis

- KCACTF National Stage Management Fellowship Recipient
- College of the Arts Distinguished Commencement Speaker 2013

artEquity National Facilitator Training  
2018 Cohort

- Explored the challenges and successes of addressing issues of equity, diversity, and justice within art institutions in two intensive retreats

Anti-Racist Theatre: A Foundational Course  
Summer 2020

- Delved into the three core principles of anti-racist theatre: harm reduction, harm prevention, and relationship repair