

# Fairlith Harvey

VANCOUVER, BC 604-841-1377 FAIRLITH.B.HARVEY@GMAIL.COM FAIRLITH.COM

#### **ABOUT**

Fairlith is a theatre creator, themed entertainment designer, producer, playwright, director, and performer with an emphasis on immersive work. In 2012, she founded Geekenders, one of the Pacific Northwest's most successful independent theatre companies, still going strong in 2024. She has written and conceived of over 60 original dramatic works, cabarets, and immersive productions, seen by over 150,000 Canadian audience members and over 10 million YouTube viewers. Her work has been described as having a 'cult following' in Vancouver (Vancity Buzz). Fairlith mixes inclusivity, warmth, and irreverent humour to create a dreamy onstage world examining perspectives that have been repressed. She is always mindful of the guest experience, and does not put her art on a pedestal; equitable hiring practices, positive experiences, safety, and connection are her core values.

Fairlith's core values include mentorship and inclusion, and everything that Fairlith creates is designed to be cast and staffed as inclusively as possible, and invite at least one person entirely new to whatever kind of project it is (theatre, dance, burlesque, and invarious positions from acting to producing) every single time.

Fairlith's original immersive script, 'Alice in Glitterland', was picked up by the Playwrights' Theatre Centre in 2018 as one of their collaborations for the 2019 Vancouver Fringe Festival, where it sold out every performance in advance. Her newest projects are 'Another of Jay Gatsby's Famous Parties,' an immersive adaptation of F. Scott Fitzgerald's novel, and 'Dr. Tomorrow and the World of Yesterday', her first foray into combining VR-based gaming and immersive theatre.

Fairlith has created programming for Barkerville Historic Town, Whistler Village, Bear Creek Gardens, Disney Cruise Lines, Playland's Fright Nights, The Railway Museum of British Columbia, East Vancouver's Rio Theatre, and New York's immersive Times Square dining experience, Mars 2112. Additionally, Fairlith has run the Vancouver Rocky Horror shadow cast for fourteen chaotic years (and counting).

### **QUALIFICATIONS**

AMERICAN MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC ACADEMY -- NY CAMPUS -- MUSICAL THEATRE

- Graduated with 3.9 GPA
- Chosen for prestigious Voice and Speech Tour, as a student who demonstrated exceptional aptitude in monologue and dialect work.
- Awarded a scholarship based on merit, audition, and experience that totalled a third of tuition.
- Studied acting, dance, singing, musical theatre acting, stage combat, text analysis, etc.

EVENT PRODUCTION, WEDDING PLANNING, EVENT MANAGEMENT - VANCOUVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE SCREENWRITING - KAT MONTAGU MASTERCLASS, JORDAN STRATFORD MASTERCLASS GORDON ROBERTS, SARA DOUGLAS, SANDERS WHITING -- VANCOUVER, BC -- SINGING (CLASSICAL/MUSICAL THEATRE)

## FAIRLITH HARVEY WRITING AND DIRECTING CV (SELECTED)

THIS LIST IS COMPRISED OF HIGHLIGHTS; IN MY PROFESSIONAL CAREER, I HAVE WRITTEN/DIRECTED/PRODUCED OVER 60 ORIGINAL WORKS FROM SMALL VARIETY SHOWS TO LARGE-SCALE IMMERSIVE SPECTACULARS. MY SHOWS HAVE BEEN CALLED A VANCOUVER INSTITUTION (HONEY BAE PRODUCTIONS)

2024 - DR. TOMORROW AND THE WORLD OF YESTERDAY - AN ORIGINAL IMMERSIVE PRODUCTION COMMISSIONED BY 'BANGING ROCKS' (BANGING ROCKS.CA). COMBINING IMMERSIVE, INTERACTIVE STORYTELLING WITH VIRTUAL REALITY TECHNOLOGY, THE SHOW PLACES THE AUDIENCE IN THE ROLES OF AGENTS WORKING FOR A SECRET GOVERNMENT AGENCY THAT HARNESSES CHAOS THEORY TO MAKE MAJOR HISTORICAL EVENTS OCCUR LIKE THEY'RE 'SUPPOSED' TO. OR DO THEY? I AM WRITING THE SCRIPT AND TEN INDIVIDUAL VR EXPERIENCES FOR THIS SHOW, AND WILL DIRECT.

2023 - CONCORD PACIFIC BARBIE DREAMCONDO EXPERIENCE - THIS IMMERSIVE WALKTHROUGH AIMED TO RELATABLY EMBODY BARBIE'S VERSATILITY AND AIMED TO INSPIRE YOUNG VANCOUVERITES TO REALIZE THEIR HOMEOWNERSHIP DREAMS. THIS IMMERSIVE INSTALLATION, COMMISSIONED BY CONCORD PACIFIC, SAW GUESTS ENTERING BARBIE'S INTERACTIVE GARDEN CHRISTMAS PARTY BATHED IN PINK LIGHT, ENJOYING THEMED FOOD AND DRINK, A PHOTO BOOTH, GLAM STATIONS, AND PIANO AND SINGING PERFORMANCES. THE FINALE SAW GUESTS EXPLORING THE 'BARBIE DREAMCONDO' JUNIOR SUITE MODEL HOME.

2023/2024 - ANOTHER OF JAY GATSBY'S FAMOUS PARTIES - AN IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCE EXPLORING THE COMPLEXITIES OF IDENTITY AND PRETENSE SET AGAINST THE LAVISH BACKDROP OF A SURREAL 1920S MANSION PARTY. DESIGNED WITH METICULOUSLY-CREATED SYMBOLIC ART INSTALLATIONS BEHIND EVERY TANTALIZINGLY CLOSED DOOR, A LIVE JAZZ BAND PLAYING ALL NIGHT, AND INTERACTIVE ELEMENTS THROUGHOUT, THE SHOW ENGAGES AUDIENCES IN A THOUGHT-PROVOKING JOURNEY THROUGH MANIC JOY AND DEADLY TRAGEDY AGAINST THE JAZZ-AGE BACKGROUND DESCRIBED IN THE CLASSIC NOVEL, ALONGSIDE REAL HISTORICAL FIGURES OF THE TIME INCLUDING JOSEPHINE BAKER, HEMINGWAY, AND THE FITZGERALDS THEMSELVES.

2022 - BACK FROM THE DEAD - BOOK OF A MUSICAL COMMISSIONED BY RENEGADE PRODUCTIONS, INC. TO PREMIERE AT THE PLAYHOUSE IN VANCOUVER, BC, JULY 2024. A CAMPY TAKE ON WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN IN THE ANARCHY OF THE POST-APOCALYPSE, THROUGH AN EIGHTIES-INSPIRED ACTION-ADVENTURE EPIC LENS. FULL OF BEAUTIFULLY WEIRD CHARACTERS COPING WITH INSANE TRAUMA IN UNIQUE AND ECCENTRIC WAYS. SHARP POLITICAL AND POP CULTURE SATIRE, AND PUPPETS!

2021 - THE NORTH POLE EXPRESS - COMMISSIONED BY THE RAILWAY MUSEUM OF BRITISH COLUMBIA (WCRA.ORG). AUDIENCES WALKED THROUGH A TWO-HOUR IMMERSIVE ADVENTURE POPULATED BY ORIGINAL CHARACTERS AND FILLED WITH HANDMADE WALK-THROUGH, INTERACTIVE ART INSTALLATIONS. GUESTS BOARDED A REAL, EXPLORABLE STEAM TRAIN DECORATED TO THE NINES WITH TINSEL AND TWINKLING LIGHTS, WHILE ACROBATS AND SINGERS CAVORTED IN THE AISLES. A SHORT JOURNEY WITH COMPLIMENTARY HOT CHOCOLATE TOOK GUESTS TO THE NORTH POLE, WHERE THEY WERE GREETED BY SURPRISES INCLUDING ACTS LIKE A 'HULA HOOP TESTER', CIRCUS ELVES SWINGING TWENTY FEET ABOVE GUESTS' HEADS, AND THE CLAUSES THEMSELVES. GUESTS ALSO HOPPED ABOARD A MINI TRAIN DARK RIDE THROUGH CHARMING CHRISTMAS SCENES DESIGNED AND CREATED BY HAND. I WAS GIVEN \$10,000 AND TWO MONTHS FOR CREATION, FROM DESIGNING AND INSTALLING THE IMMERSIVE SPACES TO WRITING SCRIPTS AND FINDING AND TRAINING PERFORMERS. APPEARED AS HEAD ELF/CHARACTER PERFORMER.

2021 - THE NEVERLAND NIGHT CIRCUS - IMMERSIVE COVID-CONSCIOUS OUTDOOR WALKING TOUR COMMISSIONED BY THE SURREY ARTS COUNCIL. THE NEVERLAND NIGHT CIRCUS ADAPTS THE STORY OF J.M. BARRIE'S PETER PAN, DEPRIVED OF NEARLY ALL SPOKEN DIALOGUE AND THEORETICALLY SET IN 'NEVERLAND', AN EPHEMERAL CIRCUS THAT TEMPTS YOU TO RUN AWAY WITH IT INSTEAD OF GROWING UP. THE PIECE EXAMINES THEMES OF CHOOSING ADULTHOOD CONSCIOUSLY AND EXPERIMENTED WITH IMMERSING GUESTS DURING A TIME WHEN THEY HAD TO TRAVEL IN GROUPS OF SIX WHILE SOCIALLY DISTANCED.

2020 - KILL THE RIPPER - AN ORIGINAL SCRIPT WRITTEN TO FILL A NICHE FOR FEMALE STAGE COMBATANTS. THE 1888 WHITECHAPEL MURDERS ARE SEEN THROUGH THE EYES OF THREE VICTORIAN SEX WORKERS WHO DECIDE TO TAKE MATTERS INTO THEIR OWN HANDS AND TEACH THEMSELVES SELF-DEFENSE SO THEY CAN HUNT DOWN AND SLAY THE INFAMOUS KILLER. THIS SHOW TOURED IN BRITISH COLUMBIA AND PREMIERED FALL 2023 IN WASHINGTON DC FOR A MONTH-LONG RUN OF SOLD OUT SHOWS. THE SHOW WAS GRANTED A \$48,000 PRODUCTION GRANT FROM THE CANADA COUNCIL FOR THE ARTS AND A RECOMMENDATION FROM THE HELEN HAYES AWARDS.

2019 - ALICE IN GLITTERLAND - IMMERSIVE DANCE-BASED RETELLING OF ALICE IN WONDERLAND SET IN A SURREAL RETRO CABARET, FOCUSING ON LIVING AND LOVING WITH MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES. WROTE, DIRECTED, AND CREATED A NEW KIND OF SCRIPT FORMAT FOR THIS PIECE. IT SOLD OUT IN ADVANCE IN ITS INAUGURAL RUN.

## WRITING AND DIRECTING (SELECTED)

HIGHLIGHTS CONTINUED:

2018 - DISNEY CLOWNING AND DAREDEVIL CRUISE SHIP SHOW WRITTEN AND DIRECTED FOR DAVID AIKEN, THE CHECKERBOARD GUY (THECHECKERBOARDGUY.COM), TO BE PERFORMED ON THE DISNEY DREAM. WROTE ALL THE JOKES AND BANTER FOR THIS SHOW AROUND HIS DAREDEVIL MATERIAL.

2017 - INVITED TO PRESENT TWO OF MY MUSICALS, 'JURASSIC PARODY: THE MUSICAL!' AND 'HOW I MET MY MOTHER: A BACK TO THE FUTURE MUSICAL PARODY' AT NEW YORK'S 54 BELOW (54BELOW.COM).

2017 - WHISTLER VILLAGE STREET ENTERTAINMENT PROGRAMMING - USED A BUDGET OF \$300,000 TO BRING THE WHISTLER VILLAGE STROLL TO LIFE DAILY ON WEEKENDS FOR THE SUMMER SEASON. DISCOVERABLE INSTALLATIONS HAD GUESTS WAVING TO MERMAIDS FROLICKING IN THE STREAM, DANCING ALONG TO GLITTERING SHOW CHOIRS, GASPING AT CIRCUS DEMONSTRATIONS, JAMMING OUT TO LOCAL MUSICIANS, AND PLUNGING THEIR HANDS INTO A TIDE POOL PETTING ZOO.

2017 - SLUMBER HERE - AN IMMERSIVE ADAPTATION OF A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM WITH FOUR DIFFERENT ENDINGS, DEPENDING ON HOW WELL AUDIENCE MEMBERS COMPLETED QUESTS GIVEN TO THEM BY THE WARRING COURTS OF OBERON AND TITANIA. PRODUCED TWICE, FOR THE VANCOUVER FRINGE FESTIVAL AND THE SURREY ARTS COUNCIL. CONCEPTUALIZED, WROTE IN IAMBIC PENTAMETER. AND DIRECTED THIS SHOW.

2013-2023 - SCI-FI BURLESQUE ADVENTURES - ANNUAL CHEEKY PARODIES FOCUSING ON RETRO SCI-FI THROUGH THE LENS OF THE ZIEGFELD FOLLIES. REMOUNTED VARIOUS TIMES AND TOURING EXTENSIVELY, THESE SHOWS HAVE BEEN SEEN BY OVER 70,000 LIVE AUDIENCE MEMBERS AND MULTI MILLIONS ON YOUTUBE. WROTE, AND DIRECTED.

2012/2013/2016 - BARKERVILLE HISTORIC TOWN - CHARACTER PERFORMANCE, AND ENTERTAINMENT PROGRAMMER AND CREATIVE EVENT COORDINATOR FOR BARKERVILLE HISTORIC TOWN, A LIVING HISTORY MUSEUM DEDICATED TO THE NORTHERN BRITISH COLUMBIA GOLD RUSH. I WROTE AND IMPLEMENTED THE FOLLOWING PROGRAMMING, TO BE PERFORMED IN-CHARACTER BY HISTORICAL INTERPRETERS, FULL OF JOKES AND FUN WORDPLAY, ALL IMMERSIVE AND FOR FAMILIES: 45-MINUTE SCHOOLHOUSE INTERPRETIVE SHOW, 20-MINUTE DANCE AND HURDY GURDY DEMONSTRATION, 40-MINUTE GERMAN-HISTORY FOCUSED TOUR OF BARKERVILLE, 45-MINUTE HAUNTED BARKERVILLE TOUR, 1-HOUR ORIGINAL VARIETY SHOW COMEDY SCRIPT FOR INAUGURAL 'STEAMPUNK GEEK WEEKEND' (ALSO MY CONCEPT AND PET PROJECT), AS WELL AS SIX TWENTY-MINUTE POP-UP PERFORMANCES, AND A HALF-HOUR DINNER SHOW. ALL OF THESE WERE RESEARCHED AND THEN REVIEWED FOR HISTORICAL ACCURACY BY THE CURATOR. MUCH OF MY PROGRAMMING IS STILL USED IN BARKERVILLE TODAY. THE STEAMPUNK WEEKEND CAPITALIZED ON THE 'NERD RENAISSANCE', SELLING OUT EVERY HOTEL ROOM WITHIN AN HOUR OF THE PARK DURING SHOULDER SEASON FOR A TIME TRAVEL-THEMED WEEKEND OF INTERACTIVE EVENTS AND SHOWS CREATED ENTIRELY BY ME.

2009-2012 - FRIGHT NIGHTS AT THE PNE - CHARACTER PERFORMANCE, MANAGEMENT, MAKEUP ARTISTRY. TRAINED ACTORS TO EMBODY UNCANNY PHYSICAL CHARACTERS FOR THE BIGGEST THEME PARK HAUNT IN CANADA. WORKSHOPPED APPROACHES FOR ROAMING ACTORS TO ACHIEVE MAXIMUM SCREAMS WHILE KEEPING THE PERFORMERS SAFE.

2008/2009 - MARS 2112, NEW YORK, NY - CHARACTER PERFORMANCE AS FUR AND FACE CHARACTERS, AND CREATED PROGRAMMING AND WROTE SCRIPTS FOR A 30,000 SQ FT THEMED DINING EXPERIENCE IN TIMES SQUARE. WROTE LORE AND MONOLOGUES FOR CHARACTERS INCLUDING EMPRESS GLORIANNA OF MARS, CAPTAIN ORION OF THE IMPERIAL MARTIAN GUARD, Q.T.-3.14 (GET IT?), DR. MARS, AND MY OWN CREATION, DR. MARLA MARS (HIS DAUGHTER, AND MORE FEMALE REPRESENTATION). DESIGNED COSTUMES AND MAKEUP AND PERFORMED FULL TIME.

## AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

GEEKENDERS PLACED AS A TOP THREE BURLESQUE TROUPE IN THE GEORGIA STRAIGHT'S BEST OF VANCOUVER 2016-2019 SEVEN MINUTES TILL HEAVEN - WINNER OF OR FESTIVAL PLAYWRITING CONTEST

KILL THE RIPPER - RECOMMENDED BY WASHINGTON DC'S HELEN HAYES AWARDS

ALICE IN GLITTERLAND - TWO CENTS TWO PENCE PICK OF THE FRINGE FEST 2019 AS WELL AS THEIR PICK FOR ONE OF THE BEST SHOWS OF 2019; GRANTED IN-KIND DRAMATURGY AND MENTORSHIP BY PLAYWRIGHT'S THEATRE CENTRE

SLUMBER HERE - SPIRIT OF THE FRINGE 2017, HONOURABLE MENTION FOR ARTISTIC RISK

NICOLAS CAGE BURLESQUE - THE VANCOUVER SUN BEST WACKY SHOW 2015 FOR 'NICOLAS CAGE BURLESQUE'

KILL THE RIPPER - RECOMMENDED BY THE HELEN HAYES AWARDS IN WASHINGTON DC