

Leonix Bios
For "Crossing The Bridge"

CO-ARTISTIC DIRECTORS

Erin Schlabach is a director, performer and theatre creator. She is the Co-Founder and Co-Artistic Director of Leonix, a movement theatre ensemble dedicated to devising original performance work based on community need and social reform. Her original theatre works have been presented in Los Angeles at REDCAT in the Walt Disney Concert Hall, The Electric Lodge, Highways Performance Space, Espace and in London at the Notting Hill Arts Club and the Bullion Room at the Hackney Empire. She is the vice president of Making Faces Productions, a 501(c)(3) arts advocacy organization. Erin is a graduate of Ball State University and recently returned from spending two years in London gaining her MFA in Lecoq-Based Actor Created Theatre from Naropa University at the London International School of Performing Arts as a Lucien Wulsin scholar.

Having a BA in theatre and dance from the University of Washington, Jones Welsh has been performing, directing, and teaching professionally in New York, Los Angeles, and Seattle for the last 10 years. His training includes contemporary modern dance, gymnastics, Capoeira, and Contact Improvisation. He is a 5-year Diavolo Dance Theatre company member and has also collaborated with Invertigo Dance Theatre, Rosanna Gamson/World Wide, Collage Dance Theatre, The Company of Strangers, and has developed numerous shows and workshops in residency at CalState Los Angeles, University of Alabama Birmingham, University of Arizona Tucson, and many more. In addition to founding Making Faces Productions, a company that co-produces new work and festivals in Seattle and Los Angeles, including the Improv Dance Festival and the Somatic Movement Arts Festival, Jones is also Co-Founder and Co-Artistic Director of Leonix.

COLLABORATING MEMBERS

Meredyth Hunt has lived and worked as an actor in Los Angeles for longer than she would like to admit. Television roles include hosting a nationally syndicated talk show, *Lover or Loser*, and many guest starring appearances in shows such as *Crossing Jordan*, *The Norm Show* and even a stint as the "Dragon Lady" on the soap opera *Passions*. The highlight of her film career was starring opposite Frank Langella in the independent film *Breaking the Fifth*. As much as she enjoys television and film her love of theater has never left her. She has performed around the country in shows such as *Chicago* and *Modigliani* as well as many original works.

Diogo Lopes is a performer, director and theatre creator. He has worked extensively throughout his native Portugal, most recently winning the Grande Premio Arte XXI for his work on *Puff Volton!*. He spent three years as a company member of Theatre Organic (France) and has directed several plays for Barcelona-based company La Banda. He studied Performing Arts at Academia Contemporanea do Espectaculo in Portugal and has studied the Clown and Physical Theatre with Tapa Sudana, Sophie Gazel, Kunaiki Ida, and Alan Richardson. Diogo is a 2008 graduate of the London International School of Performing Arts. Diogo continues exploring the clown in the search for an artistic truth.

Isabel Nelson is a performer and theatre creator with a particular interest in social justice. Based in Minneapolis, she received her B.A. in 2004 from Macalester College in St. Paul, MN, with a double-major in Theatre and Religious Studies, but has studied and performed in Dublin, London, and NYC in addition to the Twin Cities. A firm believer in theatre as a cross-cultural and educational

tool, Isabel also spent eight months in Uganda in 2006 as a volunteer youth worker, where she utilized her skills to the ends of youth empowerment and sexual reproductive health education. In 2008, Isabel graduated from the London International School for Performing Arts with a certificate in Creating Theatre, and has since begun research and development for new theatre works in both Portugal and the US.

An actor from Warsaw, Indiana, Matt started acting at a small theater converted from a barn as an ensemble kid and has worked his way up from there. He studied acting at Ball State University where he performed in a variety of plays as well as improvisational comedy performances. He moved to Los Angeles and studied acting with teachers at Playhouse West, and Michael Holmes. He has also studied and performed improv at IO West for the past 4 years. Matt would like to perform with Muppets someday among other dreams. If you've gotten this far in Matt's bio, he'd like to reward you with some knowledge. It costs 3 cents to make a penny.