

**Minutes of Meeting of Board of Directors  
of  
Ritual Art Troupe  
A California Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation**

The board of directors of Ritual Art Troupe held a board meeting on March 13, 2020, at 304 Winfield Street, San Francisco, California, California.

The following directors, constituting a quorum of the full board, were present at the meeting:

Stardust Doherty

Iryna Lymar (by video conference)

Jacob Priestley (aka Jacob Breedlove) (by phone)

J.P. Jones (by video conference)

There were absent:

Matthew Hoe

The chairperson announced that the meeting was held pursuant to notice provided by email with all board members agreeing on attendance by March 13, 2020.

The proposed agenda for the meeting was approved unanimously by all present.

The minutes of the last meeting of the board were approved unanimously by all those present.

**BOARD RECRUITMENT**

The board discussed the urgent desirability of adding new board members to the board to cover functions that are not currently well covered, for example fundraising and grant writing, as well as to create a more diverse and representative board.

Specifically, the board unanimously agreed to proposals to add a Latinx board member and at least two more female board members to better reflect the demographics of the communities we serve. The board also unanimously agreed it would be helpful to include representation from Arab / Middle Eastern and Indigenous / Native American

communities, to extend our age range, and to include members with a broader range of (dis)abilities, class backgrounds, immigrant status, and incarceration status as well. J.P. had brought up the idea of an internship to include younger people at the last meeting and Stardust mentioned the possibility of having an intern stay in the extra room at Stardust's home.

The Board discussed four potential candidates and Iryna and Stardust will follow up with the candidates.

The Board discussed government reporting and the need to provide legal names and possibly email and mailing addresses for this reporting.

#### PROJECT REVIEW

Iryna Lymar provided a description of the “You Too” play as part of the Theatre Makers project. The play is about the #metoo movement, directed by Iryna Lymar and co-written by Iryna Lymar and Stardust Doherty. Iryna mentioned three performances in November 2019 in Oakland and Fremont. Community partners supported the production and received some funds from the “You Too” production. Iryna said the video of the production should be ready by the end of April 2020.

Also as part of the Theatre Makers project, Stardust Doherty said there were three performances of the “20/20 Free Library Tour” on February 29 and March 1, 2020.

Theatre Makers is also working on a play called “Where We Love” / “Donde Amamos” about LGBTQ+ refugees and asylum seekers in English and Spanish with performances delayed from June 2020 until after the coronavirus pandemic.

Jacob is currently playing in a group called Triplum (a trio) with two or three shows already performed including a benefit performance for the upcoming Global Radical Faerie Gathering in South Africa. Jacob will talk with Triplum to see if they want to be a part of Ritual Art Troupe.

Stardust reported that the True of Voice project is on hold. Jacob reported that the first ancient Egyptian harp replica for the production is almost complete.

The Theatre Makers project went live on March 1, 2018, and currently has 300 members and growing. Jean-Paul Jones, Iryna Lymar, and Stardust are the Co-Instigators of the Theatre Makers Meetup. The Playwrights Circle and other meetings of Theatre Makers make it possible for anyone working on plays to discuss and get feedback on their work. Theatre Makers has new plays under development for 2020 and later.

Jean-Paul Jones is collaborating with Stardust Doherty to co-write and co-compose a musical theater play on the topic of a historical and future castrato called “Musico”, possibly with performances in 2020, with a preliminary concert currently scheduled for June 20, 2020.

Additionally, Theatre Makers has presented two plays (January and February 2020) in a series of staged SPEEC play readings with social, political, economic, and environmental change (SPEEC) themes, with additional play readings scheduled on a monthly basis, perhaps in preparation for fully staging one or more of the plays in future years. Theatre Makers plans to continue with its Playwrights Circles and Mixer/Socials on a regular basis.

#### BANK ACCOUNT

The treasurer reported that the funds of this corporation are deposited with San Francisco Fire Credit Union.

All checks, drafts, and other instruments obligating this corporation to pay money shall be signed on behalf of this corporation by any one of the following:

Stardust William Doherty

Jacob Priestley (aka Jacob Breedlove)

The bank account currently has a checking balance of \$1,575.87 and a savings balance of \$1,990.81 of the restricted funds for the Rag on a Stick Theatre and Orchestra of the Moon.

#### FINANCES

During calendar year 2019, Ritual Art Troupe revenues totaled \$40,344.48 to the Theatre Makers project. Ritual Art Troupe expenses totaled \$39,316.74. These totals are significantly higher than 2018, partly because RAT is including more of the in-kind revenues and expenses for theatre productions in the revenue and expense accounting. A prior balance of \$1,990.81 remains restricted to the Orchestra of the Moon and Rag on a Stick Puppet Theatre projects.

#### FUNDRAISING

Pursuing grant proposals: The Ritual Art Troupe obtained a grant for \$5,000 for the Theatre Makers “Where We Love” / “Donde Amamos”. We are seeking a new grant writer to because our prior grant writer won't be able to continue.

The Board considered and unanimously passed a proposal to change the organization's accounting period to the calendar year, instead of the fiscal year from April 1 to March 30.

#### MARKETING

Discussion of social media marketing and what is appropriate to post there. Iryna talked about how we discounted last-minute tickets for the “You Too” production and suggested that we plan out how to handle marketing in the future. How can we grow our audiences? Should we stick with a regular location to try to build up an audience in that location? There was quite a bit of discussion on these points. Iryna suggested adding icon links to our Facebook and Instagram presence. We discussed whether or not to have regular or sporadic meetings of a potential Theatre Makers steering committee.

## POLICIES

Participant Waiver: used without problems for the most recent project, including asking for copies of ids and health insurance cards. Some participants didn't have health insurance. The Board discussed whether asking for health insurance cards should be part of the policy.

Anti-Harassment Policy: used without problems for the most recent projects.

## FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS

The board unanimously agreed to schedule future board meetings for 2:00pm to 4:00pm on Friday, September 18, 2020, and for 2:00pm to 4:00pm on Friday, March 12, 2021, at the Ritual Art Troupe office.

## OTHER OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Since there was no further business to come before the meeting, on motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.

Dated: March 13, 2020

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Stardust Doherty, Secretary