

Elizabeth Kate Lovelady - Artistic Statement

www.ElizabethLovelady.com * LizLovelady@gmail.com * 806-236-8530

I am a director, writer, occasional performer and arts administrator. Originally hailing from small-town Texas, I recently received my MFA in stage directing from The Lir Academy at Trinity College, the Irish National Academy of Dramatic Art. My time abroad has given me a deeper perspective on the American experience which will inform my work moving forward, supported by the skills I have gained, particularly in regard to devising original work.

My art is typically character driven, with an approach that prioritizes questions over answers. I am motivated by curiosity as I probe the details of a given time, place or person with intensity and compassion; I seek to understand how an individual's circumstances eventually informs their actions, particularly when those actions are extreme or surprising. With my own writing in particular, I explore characters who defy expectations, with a special interest in women whose actions are incongruous with our preconceptions.

Very often my work employs a heightened sense of theatricality, finding opportunity in the suspension of disbelief and the inherent unpredictability of live theatre. My directorial approach takes advantage of the physical environment in which it is staged, making interesting use of unconventional spaces, leaning into potential limitations - transforming them into strengths.

I enjoy working in rooms where no one takes themselves too seriously. I value humor highly as I believe laughter can spark a collective sense of ease and engagement in group of people, whether they be artists creating together or audiences on an emotional journey. I'm eager to be challenged and never hesitate to acknowledge my own mistakes, or admit when I don't have the answer. My rehearsal rooms are highly collaborative and egalitarian, and everyone is encouraged to have a voice. I hope to be inspired by my collaborators, resulting in a playful room where people are empowered to be brave in their questions and choices.

Always earnest and rarely bleak, I hope to create art that uncovers the agency we each hold within our own lives, and highlights the impact our decisions have on the people around us and the world at large.